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Historical  
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# Hudson's Bay Company.

INCORPORATED 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY 1870

# Catalogue of the Hudson's Bay Company Historical Exhibit at Winnipeg

(Fifth edition—second printing—thirty-sixth thousand)

The Exhibit, which is situated in the Hudson's Bay Company's Winnipeg retail store, was originally opened on June 19th, 1922.

The Exhibit is open, free of charge, to the general public during business hours.

Children are always welcome. On request, the management will gladly make special arrangements for teachers or parents who desire to bring children for educational purposes. Such classes have been held in the past and have been greatly appreciated by both teachers and pupils.

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## INTRODUCTION

THE object of this Exhibit is to depict by means of relics, pictures, documents, models, *et cetera*, the history of the Hudson's Bay Company, life in the fur trade, the story of the pioneer settlers and the customs, dress, and industries of the aboriginal tribes.

The Exhibit in its present form does not fully achieve this object. In some instances essential articles are still lacking; this historical exhibit, therefore, must be regarded merely as a beginning.

Meanwhile the Exhibit has been, and it is hoped will continue to be, of real interest and value to the community, to visitors, to newcomers and to children who wish to learn something of the life and work of the country's pioneers and of the Indians who originally inhabited this great land. To citizens of longer residence and to "old-timers," the Exhibit may bring back memories of early struggles before the West was made available for settlers. For the Indians themselves, with whom the Company has dealt for many generations, the Exhibit will serve to keep available examples of native handicraft—the product of a skill that is even now almost a memory of the days of their forefathers.

Suggestions regarding the Exhibit and articles to display have been and will be welcomed.

Acknowledgment and thanks are made to Mr. Harlan I. Smith, of the Victoria Memorial Museum, Ottawa, who developed the general plan of the Exhibit, grouped the Indian handicraft and gave a new insight into such work, particularly with regard to labelling of specimens; also to the Vic-

toria Memorial Museum authorities at Ottawa for making Mr. Smith's services available. The response made by donors and others, since the opening of the Exhibit, to the appeal printed below is also much appreciated.

### AN APPEAL

An appeal is made to our friends, both within and without the H.B.C. Service, for objects which will help to fill in the gaps in the Exhibit, especially those divisions having reference to *Early History* and *Life in the Service*. Mere curiosities are not required; only those things which have a real meaning in connection with the life of the Company's officers, clerks and servants, also of the pioneer settlers and the natives.

In the possession of "old-timers" and their descendants there are many relics, pictures, models, diagrams, maps, books and letters which would assist the Exhibit in achieving its object. It is thought that many who own such articles will be glad to place them in the safe-keeping of the Exhibit, where they will be of permanent educational value to the public of growing Canada.

Information as to the whereabouts of suitable articles which could be purchased at reasonable figures will be appreciated.

## GENERAL PLAN

The following are the principal divisions of the Exhibit:

- |                                |                                    |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (1) <i>Early History</i>       | (4) <i>Life in the Service</i>     |
| (2) <i>Furs</i>                | (5) <i>Forts, Posts and Stores</i> |
| (3) <i>Indians</i>             | (6) <i>Fights and Wars</i>         |
| (7) <i>Land and Settlement</i> |                                    |

1. In the natural order of exhibits, "*Early History*" assumes first place.

2. Next comes "*Furs*," because the primary object of the first expedition sent out by the Hudson's Bay Company was to obtain furs. Unfortunately, the Exhibit has at the present time neither the space nor the material for an extensive display of furs, but a selection of the more important varieties of raw furs is shown.

3. Then the division "*Indians*," because it was with the natives that trading of furs was carried on. From the time when the natives of Hudson Bay welcomed the first H.B.C. ship in 1668 the Company has been on intimate and friendly terms with the Indians of Canada.

4. "*Life in the Service*" follows, because this phase opened immediately after the beginning of fur trading with the Indians. This is one of the most interesting subjects covered by the Exhibit. Ambitious lads from England, Scotland and elsewhere eagerly joined the H.B.C. service and spent many years, often the rest of their lives, in the northern wilderness that was later to be a part of Canada.

5. "*Forts, Posts and Stores*" is the next division in the order of the Exhibit, because they were the establishments through which the fur trade was developed and the unknown

North was gradually opened to access by British institutions. Forts with all their defensive equipment were essential, in the first place because it was not known that the attitude of the Indians would be friendly, and later—even down to recent times—because of the competition with the French and rival companies. From some of the original forts and posts, which eventually formed the beginnings of modern Canadian cities, large department stores have grown—notably those at Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver and Victoria.

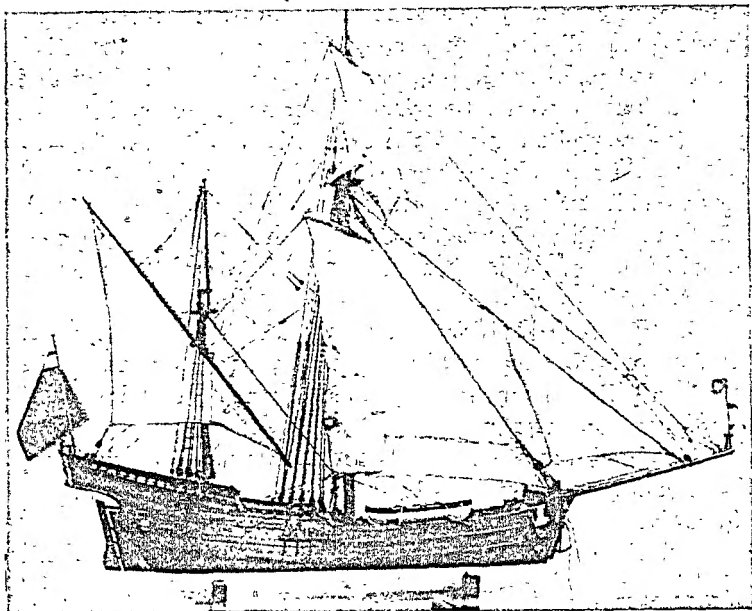
6. "*Fights and Wars*" accompanied the development of the fur trade because of the constant attacks made on the Hudson's Bay Company by their French, American and Canadian competitors.

7. "*Land and Settlement*," the seventh and last division, is intended to illustrate the progress of settlement in the Canadian West, with which the Hudson's Bay Company has been closely identified from the time of Lord Selkirk's Red River Settlement in 1812 until the present.

*Books*—There are in the Exhibit a few books concerning the history of the Hudson's Bay Company and life in its service, also some reference books concerning Indian history and life.

*Fort Simpson Library*—The old library from Fort Simpson, dating about 1850, while not shown in the Exhibit, is now in Winnipeg and can be seen by any specially interested on application to the custodian of the Historical Exhibit.

**1361**     *Framed Card* setting forth the object and divisions of the Exhibit.



*Photograph of Model of the "Nonsuch"*

## I.—EARLY HISTORY

IN "*Early History*," for convenience of the Exhibit, are included events from 1668, when the formation of the Hudson's Bay Company was first proposed, up to 1869, when by the Deed of Surrender the Company gave up its rights of territorial government to the Government of Canada.

Events subsequent to the Deed of Surrender are dealt with under the titles of "*Land and Settlement*" and "*Fights and Wars*." Some outstanding dates in H.B.C. history are:



- The *Nonsuch* sailed from England, and Fort Charles (later known as Rupert's House) was established on the east coast of James Bay, south of Hudson Bay, at the mouth of Rupert's River. 1668
- Charter granted by King Charles II to "The Governor and Company of Adventurers of England Trading into Hudson's Bay." 1670
- Moose Factory established by Radisson and Groseilliers for the Hudson's Bay Company on the west coast of James Bay. They were accompanied by Charles Bailey, who had been appointed by the Company the first Governor of Rupert's Land. 1671
- Prince Rupert, first governor, died and was succeeded by the Duke of York, afterwards James II. 1682
- Henry Kelsey, at the age of 18, started his series of explorations. He did much exploration along the Churchill River and into the prairie lands, penetrating the interior and taking possession of it on behalf of the Company. He is reported to have been the first white man to see the buffalo of the plains. 1688
- Treaty of Utrecht. France renounced claim to Hudson Bay 1713
- Fort Prince of Wales*, was built by Hudson's Bay Company at the mouth of the Churchill River on Hudson Bay. 1718
- La Verendrye and his sons, representing Montreal merchants, travelled along the north shore of Lake Superior to the Rainy River district, Lake of the Woods, and Lake Winnipeg, and ascended the Souris River to the country of the Mandan Indians, his party being the first white men to enter this area. They pushed westward to within sight of the Rocky Mountains. In 1743 they were back on the Assiniboine, not having reached the western ocean. 1731-43
- Original wooden structure of *Fort Prince of Wales* replaced by stone fortress which was one of the strongest on the continent. 1734
- Treaty of Paris. Through the capture of Quebec by Wolfe, 1759, Canada became a British possession. 1763
- Samuel Hearne, starting from *Fort Prince of Wales* on the west coast of Hudson Bay under orders from the Company, explored the great region extending from Great Slave Lake to the mouth of the Coppermine River on the Arctic Ocean and thence to Lake Athabasca. He finally succeeded in reaching the mouth of the Coppermine River on July 18th, 1771, making three attempts, commencing respectively on November 6th, 1769, February 23rd, 1770, and December 7th, 1770. 1769-71
- Fort Prince of Wales*, captured and razed by the French. Samuel Hearne, explorer, then in charge of the fort for the Hudson's Bay Company, was taken prisoner. 1782
- Alexander Mackenzie, who was stationed at Fort Chipewyan, Lake Athabasca, for the North-West company, set out to reach the mouth of the great river that bears his name, and arrived at the

- Arctic Ocean before midsummer, 1789. Mackenzie, in 1793, explored the Peace River to its source in the Rockies and, crossing the divide, marched overland in eleven days to the Pacific Ocean. It was on July 20, 1793, that Mackenzie came to the Western Sea. 1789-93
- George Vancouver the English navigator, surveyed for the first time the coast of what is now British Columbia and circumnavigated the large island which was named after him. 1792
- The North-West and X.Y. companies amalgamated and entered upon a course of aggression against the Hudson's Bay Company. 1804
- Simon Fraser explored to its mouth in the Straits of Georgia the large river in British Columbia that to-day is called the Fraser. 1808
- Lord Selkirk granted by H.B.C. 116,000 square miles in neighbourhood of Assiniboine and Red rivers to form the Red River settlement or Selkirk colony. 1811
- Lord Selkirk's first party of colonists reached the banks of the Red River where Winnipeg now stands. 1812
- Governor Semple killed at Seven Oaks. 1816
- Combination of the Hudson's Bay Company with the North-West company, whose headquarters was in Montreal. Sir George Simpson made governor. 1821
- Fort Garry erected (the old gateway still standing in Winnipeg near the Main Street and Broadway corner, was erected in 1850). 1822
- Fort Garry rebuilt, and the first government for the Red River settlement organized. 1835
- H.B.Co.'s *S.S. Beaver*, first steamship to round Cape Horn and ply on the Pacific. 1836
- Vancouver Island granted by Queen Victoria to the Company. 1849
- Vancouver Island became a Crown colony and James Douglas of H.B.C. appointed governor. 1859
- First steamboat navigating upper Red River reached Fort Garry. 1862
- Confederation of various British Colonies into the Dominion of Canada. 1867
- Transfer of land by Hudson's Bay Company to the Dominion of Canada, under terms of Deed of Surrender. 1869-70
- Riel Rebellion and the execution of Thomas Scott. 1870
- Wolseley expedition reached Fort Garry. 1870
- Winnipeg retail store built by Hudson's Bay Company. 1881
- 250th Anniversary celebrations throughout the Company's establishments in Canada. The governor of the Company, Sir Robert M. Kindersley, visited many points. Long service medals established. 1920
- 1225** *Ketch Nonsuch*.—Model made by E. W. Twining, Dychurch Lane, Northampton, England, March, 1920.
- Two French fur traders, brothers-in-law, Radisson and Groseilliers, being dissatisfied with treatment received from the French

authorities in Canada and in France, obtained a favourable reception in England from Prince Rupert, cousin of King Charles II. As a result, Prince Rupert and associates outfitted two ships, the *Eaglet*, under Captain Stannard, with Radisson on board, and the *Nonsuch* under Captain Zachariah Gillam, with Groseilliers on board. These ships sailed from Gravesend, on the Thames, near London, in June, 1668. The *Eaglet* turned back from a point near Hudson Strait, but the *Nonsuch* proceeded and on September 29th, 1668, anchored in the south of James Bay. Then and there a fort was built and named Fort Charles, and the river flowing into the bay was named Rupert's River. Owing to the cargo of furs brought back by the *Nonsuch* in the summer of 1669, a charter was applied for and was granted by King Charles II on May 2nd, 1670, to Prince Rupert and associates forming the "Governor and Company of Adventurers of England Trading into Hudson's Bay."

- 1211 *Map*.—"Canada, or New France," by N. Sanson d'Abbeville, geographer to the King of France. Published by Pierre Mariette, Paris, 1656.
- 1736 *Map of North America* by R. W. Seale, 1748.
- 1909 *Map of North America*, showing new discoveries to 1811, by A. Arrowsmith.
- 865 *Prince Rupert*.—First governor of the Hudson's Bay Company. This man of many talents, inspired by tales of the wonderful riches of a "Great Bay of the North," fitted out an expedition of two vessels, one of which in 1668 reached Hudson Bay. Prince Rupert thus was actually the founder of the Hudson's Bay Company. The next year, when the ship returned, Prince Rupert applied for and obtained a charter incorporating the Company, and he himself was appointed the first Governor of the "Company of Adventurers of England Trading into Hudson's Bay."
- 10 *Royal Charter*.—Photographed in five sections from original now in possession of the Hudson's Bay Company in London.
- 866a *Seal of the Royal Charter*.
- 1496 *Royal Charter*.—Reproduction of beginning of charter and comments on same from "The Hudson's Bay Company, 1670-1920," by Sir William Schooling, K.B.E.

- 1497 *Picture.*—"The Granting of the Royal Charter by King Charles II in 1670," also from the above mentioned work.
- 1498 *Coat-of-Arms of the Hudson's Bay Company.*—Reproduced from a sketch made before 1680.
- 866b *King Charles II* signing the Royal Charter, May 2nd, 1670.
- 864 *Indians Visiting Fort Charles, 1673.*—In March, 1673, large numbers of Nodway Indians visited Fort Charles, bringing with them furs to trade with the Hudson's Bay Company. In May more of this tribe arrived in canoes and somewhat alarmed the little band of English under Governor Charles Bailey by beginning to pitch their wigwams as if for a prolonged stay.
- 863 *First Public Sale of Furs in London.*—On November 17th, 1671, the first public sale of the Company's furs was held at Garraway's Coffee House in London. A distinguished crowd assembled, among whom were the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, and the poet Dryden. This sale was the first of a series of sales held in London by the Hudson's Bay Company which succeeded in making London the centre of the world's fur trade.



*First Public Sale of Furs at Garraway's Coffee House, London, Nov. 17th, 1671*



*Eskimo Women Baling White Fox Furs*

## II.—FURS

THE leading motive of the Hudson's Bay Company in outfitting ships and despatching annual expeditions to Hudson Bay after 1670 was of course the profits to be derived from the fur trade.

Year by year, as the Company's ships arrived from Hudson Bay in the Downs or at Portsmouth, news was sent quickly to London giving the result of the season's trade. Pending the sale of the furs, it was sometimes necessary for the Company's stockholders to advance money for the purchase of new outfits. In many cases, complete returns from distant posts were not available in London for several years.

The first consignments of H.B.C. furs from Hudson Bay were sold privately at such commercial centres of the fur

trade as Leipzig, Amsterdam, Paris and Vienna. But in November, 1671, a new departure occurred. At Garraway's Coffee House in London, "3,000 weight of Beaver skins, comprised in thirty lotts," were offered for sale. Garraway's on this occasion of the first public auction of H.B.C. furs was crowded with distinguished men, including Prince Rupert, the Duke of York, and the poet Dryden.

Auctions in those days were conducted by the candle and not by the hammer as at present. This sale was to lead to London becoming the world centre for the sale of furs.

The variety of fur with which the Company to-day concerns itself is considerably greater than in earlier times. For example, the large cargo of pelts brought back to London by the *Nonsuch* in 1669 (which influenced the stockholders to form the Hudson's Bay Company) consisted almost wholly of beaver skins. Gradually, however, as the field of H.B.C. operations spread and the skins of other animals were taken, popularity for a variety of furs developed in Europe, and the range of pelts offered at the auctions grew to its present extent.

Some of the furs that were formerly sent to London in large quantities now come in small numbers. The recent supply of badger is about one-fortieth of what it was twenty years ago. In the same period, the supply of the valuable and beautiful *fur seal*, which was formerly abundant, has almost disappeared. Fashion of course plays a large part in the demand for various kinds of fur.

After reaching the London warehouses of the Company in their stout burlap bales which bear the marks of many far northern posts, the furs must first be graded. There is no mechanical means by which this grading can be accomplished. It is a matter of long experience and trained

judgment. The same standards must be maintained so far as possible from year to year.

The Hudson's Bay grading of furs has come to be generally accepted and relied upon as the standard followed closely by buyers and sellers in the world's greatest fur market. This condition is largely due to the grading of H.B.C. furs having been in the hands of experienced men who have imparted their knowledge and experience to succeeding generations.

One family alone has given upwards of one hundred years service in the work of grading and selecting.

A tour of the H.B.C. London fur warehouse during show week, prior to one of the auctions, probably would be a unique experience to those accustomed to looking upon furs as finished articles of apparel.

To begin with, many of the skins are received "inside out." The fur side is not visible but is turned inside the pelt. This method of handling has the advantage of protecting the sides and edges of the fur, which otherwise might be damaged by rubbing.

The furs are quite raw as a general rule, no attempt having been made to clean, dress or improve their natural state. It is surprising, however, to note how well the skins have been treated or "cured" by the Indian hunters and the expertness with which they have been removed from the animal. Indian hunters usually handle their returns more satisfactorily in these respects than do white men.

In the Hudson's Bay Company warehouse bulky bags, each containing from 1,000 to 2,000 skins of the muskrat, represent the Company's offering of this fur. The raw pelts have little resemblance to the beautifully dyed and sheared skins which go to make up a "Hudson Seal" coat. The fur

called "Hudson Seal" is really composed of the skins of muskrats dressed and dyed.

On another floor are displayed sundry skins, including salted fur seals taken in the Behring Sea and dry hair seals from the Labrador, which are used more by the leather worker than the furrier. Perhaps also some Canadian skunk is found here, than which no fur is more sparkling when cleaned. Squirrel is also found on this floor—one of the few instances in which Siberian skins excel those coming from Canada.

A large space is devoted to beaver, which is somewhat bulky in the mass. It is Canada's characteristic fur and most famous of the Company's collections.

The beaver is opened flat by the trapper. It is received as an oblong or oval shaped skin. One side is like parchment and the other covered with "hair." Its real beauty is not apparent in the raw state, owing to the presence of rather harsh water hairs of a coppery appearance, which have to be removed before the soft richness of the brown fur can be appreciated.

Otter is very choice and durable, of a close texture that wears much longer than the "rougher" covering of fox or wolf. Indeed otter is reckoned to be the most durable of all furs. The Canadian otter is far more attractive and valuable than that received from other parts of the world.

Mink, fisher, lynx and Canadian sable or marten are all included in the category of "fine furs." Mink is the least valuable. It resembles a very much reduced edition of the otter, and is one of the most popular of brown furs. Lynx is silky, but not very durable. It is usually dyed black before being made into garments.

Marten, or Canadian sable, is a fur beloved of English ladies. The variety of colour in marten skins is extra-



ordinary, but here, as in most other furs, the darkest skins are the most valuable. Fisher, the largest member of the weasel family, possesses perhaps the most handsome coat, which in some instances is scarcely inferior in colour to the choicest Russian sable. Its tail has all the lustre of Canadian skunk. Ermine seems a very tiny skin in comparison with its neighbours. By way of contrast, big, bushy grizzly-bear skins may be seen.

The polar bears are the largest skins handled by the H.B.C. and, in proportion to their size, the least valuable. Three varieties of wolves are usually available; the prairie wolf or coyote; the brush wolf; and the large timber wolf in grey and bluish black, commonly known as the "blue wolf," which is in great demand on account of its colour. Wolf skins are somewhat coarse in fur and, until recent years, were used mainly for rug purposes. Now, however, they are very largely utilized for personal wear. The same applies to the wolverine, which has a marking or saddle of dark hue surrounded by a belt of brighter coloured hair.

Of the foxes, the white or Arctic fox is usually the most plentiful. It is greatly favoured by furriers on account of the variety of shades in which it may be dyed. The red or common fox is found in many parts of the world, but the Company's collection includes only the choicest Canadian and Siberian sorts, which are long-haired in comparison.

Blue fox is akin to the white fox, being also an Arctic skin. Its beautiful shades of blues and browns make it an exceedingly attractive fur, and it is correspondingly valuable.

Cross fox is another very popular skin, which in size and texture is similar to its kinsman the red fox, but differs from the latter in that its back is usually covered with silvery hair and a more or less well-defined *cross* is to be seen on its

neck. Some of the better specimens closely approximate the silver fox, but their cheeks and shoulders are yellowish or rusty, and this is enough to determine their category.

The silver fox is the choicest of all foxes and, now that sea otters are almost extinct, it may be considered the most valuable of all furs. In texture and size it resembles the red and cross foxes, but its colour ranges from a pure silver (sometimes almost white) to a deep, rich black. The best skins always are of clear colour and fresh and glossy appearance, besides being free from faults or defects in the fur.

Having completed such a tour of inspection in the H.B.C. fur warehouse in London, the visitor will have seen a collection of choice furs second to none in the world, and one which, in the estimation of the fur merchant, occupies the premier place because of the universal confidence reposed in the Hudson's Bay Company.

"Beaver House," the new fur warehouse, is being completed during 1926 by the Company on Little Trinity Lane, in the heart of the fur trade district in London. It affords facilities for storing, grading and examining furs on a scale hitherto unattempted, with up to date arrangements to lighten the work of the many buyers who attend the auction sales held in January, April and October.

- 1345 *Lynx*, from Northern Manitoba, good size and quality. Lynx increase and decrease according to food supply, which consists mainly of rabbits. The lynx does considerable tree climbing, and is a good swimmer and readily takes to the water.
- 1346 *Marten*, from Northern Manitoba, a brown skin of medium size. These animals frequent dark woods and vary in colour from golden yellow to a very-dark mahogany brown. It is of the nature of the squirrel and leaps from tree to tree with tireless energy and feeds on rabbits, mice, birds, fish and insects.
- 1347 *Fisher*, from Northern Ontario, of medium size and colour. Colours vary from light brown to dark—almost black—and the hair of this animal varies in texture from coarse to very fine

and silky. The fisher spends much of its time up trees, as does the marten.

- 1348 *Red Fox*, from Northern Manitoba. Red foxes vary in colour from pale red to dark red, according to the locality in which they are caught. The texture of the fur also varies according to locality. Inland foxes have finer fur than those of the coasts.
- 1349 *White Fox*. This fox is found in the extreme northern sections of Canada, and is smaller and not so timid as the red, cross, or silver fox. In the Arctic, white foxes are found mainly on the ice, where they live on the remains of seals killed by polar bears.
- 1350a, b *Musquash*. Two skins—one on stretcher. The musquash or muskrat is a water animal, similar in many respects to the beaver, and is caught in marshes, slow running rivers and lakes. It is the most prolific of Canada's fur-bearing animals.
- 1351 *Ermine*. The ermine (or weasel) changes its coat from a brown colour in the summer to white in the winter. This animal shows strong inclination for "civilized" or house life, as does the mouse, and lives on the latter animal and also birds. The fur forms part of almost all state robes, and years ago the wearing of ermine in England was restricted to members of the royal family.
- 1352 *Mink*. The mink is almost as aquatic in its habits as the otter, beaver, or musquash, and spends more of its time in water than on land. The quality and size of these animals vary much, according to the locality in which they are caught. The Eastern mink is small and silky in the hair, as compared with western skins, which are inclined to be larger and coarser. It makes its nest in the banks of streams and does not hesitate to appropriate the home of a muskrat which it kills. It is an expert fisher and, although the mink, on an average, is only about 16 inches long, it has been known to catch a trout a foot long.
- 1353 *Grey Wolf*, from the Athabasca, of good size and quality. The wolf varies in colour and size according to locality. The prairie wolf or coyote is the smallest of the species and frequents the farming districts. It raids the farm yards and, being very cunning, is a source of trouble. The grey wolf inhabits the timbered country, but is also found in large numbers in the treeless far north, where his main food is caribou. The grey wolf attains the same size—according to the food supply—as the large timber wolf. The latter is a dark iron grey in colour, varying to almost black, and is found in the heavily wooded regions.
- 1354 *Beaver*. An exceptionally large skin taken in the Lake Huron district, Ontario. The Canadian beaver is the largest of the

rodents. The habits of the beaver are well known, since the ingenuity with which it constructs its dams and lodges has always been a matter of great interest. It is one of the most intelligent and industrious of animals. The beaver is an emblem of Canada and is present in the arms of the Hudson's Bay Company. Its skin was the first principal medium of exchange in the fur trade. In the dressed fur, the long "water hairs" seen on this pelt are taken out. The skin is "plucked," leaving the beautiful soft, brown, short beaver fur that is so well known.

- 1355 *Otter*, from Lake Superior district, Ontario. This fur is one of the best, handsomest and most durable of all fine furs. The otter is the largest and most intelligent of the weasel-family. It is an expert fisher. In the winter it will travel long distances to find

rapids and falls which have not been frozen over. Because of its short legs, when travelling on snow, it takes several short "hops" and then slides along for some distance on its belly, constantly repeating this process. The otter delights in sliding down snow covered or slippery mud river banks and diving into the water. It will often play for hours in this manner.

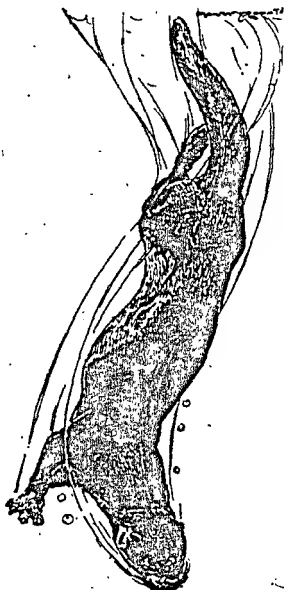
- 1356 *Skunk*. Broad striped. From Vancouver Island. All British Columbia skunk are of this class, but the average size is smaller than the specimen exhibited.

- 1357 *Wolverine*, from British Columbia mainland. The mainland part of British Columbia produces wolverine which, as a rule, are small in size but of good texture and colour.

- 1358 *Raccoon*, from Vancouver Island. The mainland of British Columbia does not produce raccoon of as good colour or quality as does the Island, perhaps on account of a less plentiful food supply. Island skins are noted for fineness in texture and beauty of colour.

- 1654 *Map*, showing fur trading posts of Hudson's Bay Company, 1924.

- 1911 *Old wooden fur press* from Lower Fort Garry, containing imitation bale packed for shipment.



*Otter Diving*

From a sketch by Harry Rountree in  
"The Hudson's Bay Company  
1670-1920," by Sir William School-  
ing, K.B.E.



*Chipewyan Indian Squaw, Athabasca*

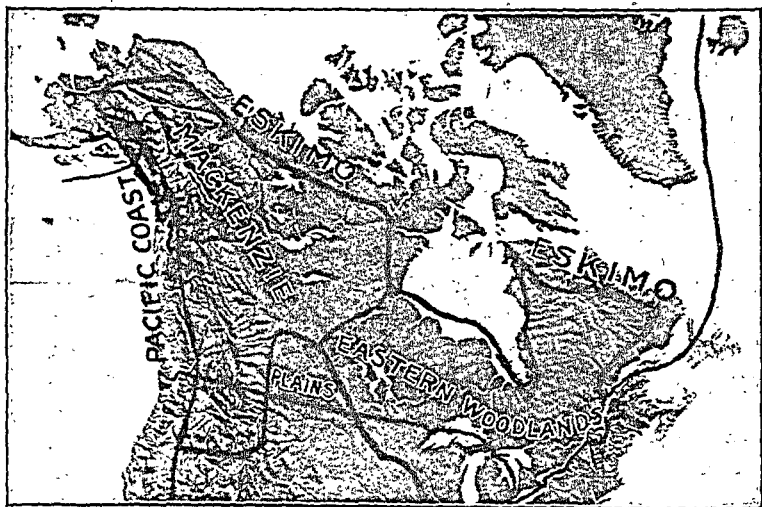
### III.—INDIANS

THE name "Indians" was applied to the aborigines of America by Christopher Columbus in 1493. He believed, as did the people of his age, that the West Indian Islands he had discovered in 1492, by sailing across the Atlantic, were actually a part of India.

The Indians represent a single physical type. Generally, they had dark eyes, dark straight hair, high cheek bones, little or no beard and aquiline noses. Their colour was coppery, and they were often called red men or redskins. There were more than two hundred tribes of Indians in America north of Mexico. They spoke many different languages. Apart from language, the Indians of Canada have been classified by ethnologists according to five "culture areas"—that is, geographical divisions which show differences of

customs, habits and handicraft. In each "culture" area" there were numerous tribes speaking various languages, but there were similarities of handicraft, social organization and mode of living which were determined by environment, climate, ancestry and neighbours. The five "culture areas" shown on the map exhibited are known as: *Eskimo*, *Plains*, *Eastern Woodlands*, *Mackenzie* and *Pacific Coast*.

Indian customs, habits and handicraft changed materially after the white man came. Aboriginal methods of hunting and trapping were revolutionized by European weapons and tools. The life of the Indian was greatly influenced by the white man's trade goods, mode of living, religion and laws.



*Indian "Culture Areas" in Canada.—Map by courtesy of Mr. H. I. Smith,  
Ottawa*

The Indians of Canada have been an essential factor in the fur trade. Their friendly association with the Hudson's Bay Company and the kindly treatment and fair dealing of the Company are traditions two and a half centuries old. Peaceful trading with the many tribes of the northland was the Company's desire, and to this fact its records and rules and regulations bear ample testimony.

- 1333 *Map of Canada.* Defining boundaries of Indian "culture areas." Courtesy of Mr. H. I. Smith, Ottawa.
- 1495 *Sample of Cree syllabic writing,* invented by Rev. James Evans, converting the Cree language to writing. Presented by Rev. Archdeacon R. Faries, of York Factory, diocese of Keewatin, Church of England.

### INDIANS—*Eskimo*

ESKIMOS live on the Arctic sea coast and islands from Greenland to Alaska. In earlier times they lived as far south as the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Their material culture is influenced to a large extent by the caribou, seal, musk-ox, walrus and whale. From the skins of these animals their clothing and summer houses are made; their utensils, implements and weapons are fashioned from the bone and ivory.

The Eskimos have no vegetable food except a few berries. Their name is said to come from "Ashkimeq," meaning "eaters of raw flesh." Wood is extremely scarce in Eskimoland. That which drifts in from the sea is eagerly seized upon and used for summer house poles or spliced with ivory to make bows, arrows and implements of utility. The dome-shaped snow house or *igloo* of the Eskimos contains the nearest approach to the keyed arch found among North American natives. They make no pottery, except a very little in the west, but they use stone lamps with the oil of

Arctic animals for fuel. They make few baskets and no woven articles. The baskets are of the sewed/coil type. They do not attempt agriculture.

Hudson's Bay Company's men first came in contact with the Eskimos at the Coppermine River in 1771, and the Company now has many posts in the Arctic which depend largely on trade with these people, who have been described as the happiest, most contented folk in the world. The Eskimos are always smiling.



*Types of Western Arctic Eskimos*



## HUNTING AND FISHING

- 1335 *Eskimo kayak*, made by Eskimos on the shores of Coronation Gulf, within the Arctic circle. Constructed of sealskin and wood. The Eskimos use these *kayaks* for hunting seal and walrus, and frequently make long journeys in them from the mainland to various islands when in quest of game. This *kayak* was at Fort Simpson on the Mackenzie River for some time previous to 1920.
- 6a,b *Harpoon and line*, for hunting white whales and walrus; from Baffin Island.
- 282 *Eskimo seal spear*, presented by Inspector C. D. La Nauze, of the R.C.M.P. In the Eskimo country wood is scarce and nearly all articles are made of bone, ivory, antler and stone.
- 283 *Ivory harpoon*, for killing large fish, white whales, seal and walrus. *Western Eskimo*.
- 284a,b *Harpoon*, same as 283, but with bladder float. *Western Eskimo*.
- 1483 *Bow, 11 arrows, and quiver*. The bow is given elasticity by being backed with sinew. The arrows consist of wooden shafts with feathered butts; they have bone foreshafts into which copper points are set and riveted. The quiver is made of sealskin. Coronation Gulf Eskimo. Presented by Mr. A. F. Fugl, formerly H.B.C. manager of Athabasca district.
- 1484
- 1485
- 1486 *Four arrowheads*, made of bone by Coronation Gulf Eskimo. Presented by Mr. A. F. Fugl.
- 1487 *Two skewers*, made of bone by Coronation Gulf Eskimo. Presented by Mr. A. F. Fugl.
- 286 *Bow*, used by Eskimo in hunting in the Arctic.
- 295a *Ivory fish spear*, with sealskin thong.
- 302a,e *Kayak model*, 2 paddles and 2 spears.
- 444 *Stone lance point*.
- 508 *Fishing line with ivory bait*, made of whalebone. The hook is of metal obtained from white men.
- 550 *Coil of line*, used for line of harpoon, dog harness, lashings, etc.
- 989 *Eskimo fish club*, made from bone of walrus.
- 1050 *Small fish spear*. Eskimo spears are made with loose points. This one is for use through the ice.
- 1073a,c *Slings*, used to bring down small game; made of leather.
- 1074 *Bolas*, for throwing among the flocks of birds to tangle about their legs and necks and thus bring them down.

- 1106-7 *Jiggers*, for catching fish, made of stone, bone, sinew and strips of skin.
- 1120-21 *Jiggers*, made of ivory antler and bone and strips of skin.
- 1110 *Spear head*, chipped from stone.
- 1111b *Arrow point of stone*.
- 1112 *Points for arrows, knives, spears*, chipped from stone; the larger ones probably for spears and knives, smaller ones for arrows.
- 1125-6 *Fish hook and bait*. This bait is usually left lying on the sand or mud on the bottom and near the edge of the lake, when the lake trout come and swallow the whole end. It is never used as ordinary bait.
- 1127 *Snare*, made of whalebone for catching partridges. Very little vegetable fibre is available to the Eskimo, and whalebone and leather are used in its place.
- 1162a,b *Two old detachable points for harpoon*.
- 1163a,e *Five barbed points*, made of bone or antler.
- 1168 *Arrow point*, chipped from chert. Note example of very delicate chipping.
- 1172a,c *Three arrows*. Caribou antler for shafts (chipped point).
- 1177a,d *Four spear heads* (3 small, 1 large). All seem to be recently made. The large one is stamped Sheffield.
- 1178 *Probably bone float for net*.
- 1183a,c *Three detachable harpoon points of ivory*.
- 1179 *Detachable point* for harpoon, made of antler or ivory.
- 1187a,k *Points* chipped from stone for arrows, spears and knives; the small usually for knives, and the large usually for spears and knives.
- 1188a,c *Model kayak and wooden spear*, with iron point and harpoon with detachable ivory point.
- 1204 *Rawhide sling*, with handle of ivory.
- 1207a,b *Two old iron spearheads*.

## HOUSEHOLD ARTICLES

- 346 *Whale and seal oil dipper*, made of horn, probably of musk ox.
- 1113a,e *Iron pyrites for striking fire.*
- 1182a,b *Two iron pyrites for striking fire.*
- 1105 *Kudlik*. Stone lamp. Wood being scarce, the fat or oil of animals was used as fuel with moss for wick; lamps of various kinds were used for cooking..
- 1101 *Ky-u-tak*. Stone drinking mug.
- 1102 *Ky-u-tak*. Stone drinking mug.
- 1093-94 *Knives*, chipped out of stone, used for cutting meat.
- 1097-8 *Ooloo or woman's knife*, used for many kinds of work.
- 1180 *Knife*, iron blade with ivory handle.
- 1181 *Knife handle*.
- 1185 *Woman's knife*, iron blade, handle of ivory or antler.
- 1186 *Woman's knife*, chipped from flint; old and with handle missing.

## ESKIMO CLOTHING

- 1201a,b *Child's sealskin high boots.*
- 1128 *Louse trap*, used by Eskimos for enticing vermin from their bodies.
- 1728 *Raincoat*, of whale's intestines, with feather decorations.
- 311 *Stone Labarets*, lip ornaments.
- 1610 *Artiggi*, or Eskimo woman's dress; also called a "dicky." Obtained in 1918 from the favourite wife of the chief of the Padlemuit Eskimos at Lake Yathkyed, west of Chesterfield inlet. The dress is made of caribou skin with the fur inside. The ornamentation consists of beadwork and hundreds of caribou teeth strung on sinew.
- 1611 *Kamik*. Pair of combination skin boots and leggings.
- 320-1 *Eskimo Women's Ivory Buttons.*

## TRANSPORTATION

- 4-5 *Dog whips, made of skin and with ivory handles.*  
371 *Snowshoes, child's.*  
551 *Snowshoes, Ungava.*  
438 *Snow-goggles, used as a snow shade for the protection of the eyes after the long winter when in the springtime the sun comes out with virulence and shines on the eye and frequently soon sets up a troublesome conjunctivitis known as snow-blindness.*  
978 *Umyak, used in travelling and moving. Note the use of skin for covering by Eskimos, who are great skin users. The framework is sometimes made of the bony parts of animals.*  
1191 *Model sled with bone runners.*

## ESKIMO TOOLS

- 328 *Adze, made by lashing pieces of antler with strips of skin: the blade made of a file obtained from the whites.*  
345 *Bow, used for revolving drill, made of bone with string made of strip of skin. Drill shaft is characteristic tool among the Eskimos.*  
347 *Crooked knife. The handle is made of ivory and the blade of iron. This form of knife is typical of a large area in the northern part of North America. Used for carving.*  
353 *Large steel igloo knife, double edged and pointed. Handle wrapped with rawhide thong.*  
1184 *Ivory snow knife blade, with holes drilled, ready to attach to handle.*  
436 *Scraper chipped from chert. This is the Eskimo implement used by the women for scraping the inside of the skins. Note the finger holes and also that the edge of the scraper is slightly smooth.*  
1108 *Whetstone.*  
1109 *Flakes of stone, made by striking the stone one blow. Possibly used for cutting bone, horn, antler and soft stone.*  
1111h *Same as 1109.*  
1115 *Fine old snow knife, made of ivory, with a handle of antler. Shows the Eskimo's cleverness in splicing, drilling and working such material as old ivory and antler.*  
1116 *Blade of a fine old snow knife, made of ivory.*  
1118a *Point for drill ground out of stone.*  
1118b *Bone, for top of drill to hold in mouth.*  
1173a,c *Three skin scrapers chipped from flint.*  
76 *Plane, made by Eskimo, after European idea.*

## ESKIMO GAME

- 75a,b *Seal bone Eskimo game.*

## ESKIMO ART

- 298-99 *Pipes.* The stems are made of two pieces of wood lashed with pieces of skin. The bowls are made of metal.
- 1482 *Pipe.* Red stone bowl, with bead ornaments and wooden stem. Presented by Mr. Sebastien McKenzie, H.B.C. manager at Fort McKenzie, Ungava.
- 324 *Cribbage board,* made of ivory, showing the willingness of the Eskimos to make things for the white people.
- 549 *Tibala pipe,* made by lashing two pieces of wood with two strips of skin.
- 971 *Box made of wood,* from the extreme west, north of the Pacific Coast area. Wood is not commonly used by the Eskimos.
- 998 *Box made of wood,* from the extreme west, north of the Pacific Coast area.
- 1029 *Bone hook.*
- 1034 *Sample of ivory.* Eskimo art is generally shown by carving on ivory the forms of objects with which they are familiar. In the extreme west, carvings are made on the bony parts of animals, especially ivory, which are engraved and filled in with soot, representing men and animals. This was picture writing. The Eskimos had no written language.
- 1130-31 *Whales carved out of ivory.*
- 1132 *Seal carved out of ivory.*
- 1133 *Walrus carved out of ivory.*
- 1136 *Ivory carving,* representing sled and five dogs with man as driver.
- 1137 *Ivory carving,* representing Eskimo in *kayak*, with hunting equipment.

- 1164 *One piece of bone or ivory.*
- 1165 *Round piece of slate.*
- 1166 *Piece of bone or ivory which shows typical Eskimo art.*
- 1167 *Probably made of antler.*
- 1169 *Ivory carving, unfinished, apparantly intended to be a polar bear when finished.*
- 1170 *Ivory carving, a small carving to represent an animal.*
- 1171 *Human face on bone, believed to be unique.*
- 1174a,c *Three pieces of ivory. Grooves in one, and cross cut in others, made by row of drilled holes.*
- 1175a,d *Four pieces of bone or antler, carved.*
- 1176a,c *Three pieces of bone or antler, carved.*
- 1208 *Wooden dish, sides held together by copper rivets and iron nails.*
- 1665 *Walrus head, presented by Mr. R. S. Wheildon while in the Service, October, 1923. This is a typical head of an average size bull walrus and was shot on the ice south of Marble Island on the west coast of Hudson Bay.*
- 1666-70 *Implements made from caribou antlers, presented by Mr. R. S. Wheildon, as follows:*
- 1666 *Bow and nine arrows.*
- 1667 *Spear with detachable point.*
- 1668 *Probe, for trying seal holes in ice.*
- 1669 *Probe, for testing snow when building snow-houses.*
- 1670 *Tools, for straightening and bending caribou antlers.*

INDIANS—*Eastern Woodlands*

*Family of Ojibwa Indians—Eastern Woodlands Culture Area*

**B**IRCH BARK is an index to the Eastern Woodlands "culture area." From birch bark these Indians fabricated their slender, swift canoes, which were made light for frequent portaging. The bark was stretched on wooden frames and seamed with pitch. The wigwams in their villages were covered with birch bark. Their picture writing is found on birch bark, and from this material they also fashioned many articles of utility and adornment.

Their handicraft included many kinds of work in birch bark and wood. They tanned skins and ornamented clothing with porcupine quills dyed in various colours, but, after the advent of Europeans, glass beads gradually displaced quills for much of the work. Elm bark was woven into bags;

bulrushes were woven into mats. Elm bark or mats were used to cover the council houses.

Although these Indians at certain seasons of the year roved in bands through the forests, many of the tribes carried on agriculture. They cultivated maize and tobacco, and some used fish as fertilizer for their fields, placing a fish at the roots of each plant. The Iroquois would plant their crops in the spring, leave their squaws to do the cultivating, and go roaming away on a hunting expedition or on the war-path. In late summer they would return to their villages in time to harvest the crops. For food, the Indians of this area used wild rice and maple sugar, in addition to game, fish and maize.

The council and the lodge or fraternity were well developed institutions among them, and in their social organization were recognized the principles of arbitration, woman suffrage and the league of nations.

Among the better known tribes of this "culture area" are Woods Crees, Ojibwas, Ottawas, Nascopees, Micmacs and Iroquois.

The Hudson's Bay Company first entered this "culture area" in 1668 on the east coast of James Bay, where they built Fort Charles. Moose Factory, on the west side of James Bay, was built soon after.

The area centred around the Great Lakes and extended for more than a thousand miles in every direction from the outlet of Lake Superior.

It is a matter of regret that the Exhibit at present has so few specimens from the Eastern Woodlands area.

- 917 *Basket of birch bark, embroidered with moose hair. This basket was sent to Ireland in 1837, and brought back to Canada in 1840. The workmanship, although it shows the white man's influence,*



- is very rare. No plant or floral designs are known in Indian work prior to the European's arrival. Iroquois Indian.
- 1634 *Birch bark basket*, from Obijuan, Quebec. Used for storing tea, sugar, etc. Sewn with spruce roots.
- 1477 *Pair of beaded cuffs for jacket*, made for Chief Big Canoe, Georgana Island, Lake Simcoe. Chippewa tribe. Presented by Mr. H. Smith, Winnipeg.
- 1478 *Pair of beaded rosettes for jacket ornaments*, made for Chief Big Canoe, Georgana Island, Lake Simcoe. Chippewa tribe. Presented by Mr. H. Smith, Winnipeg.
- 1479 *Tabpegain*, a gambling game, consisting of eight pieces of hollow bone strung on a thong with a marten tail at one end and a bone skewer at the other. From H.B.C. post at Seven Islands on north shore of St. Lawrence river. Montagnais tribe.
- 1480 *Snowshoes*, model of children's size. From H.B.C. post at Seven Islands. Montagnais tribe.
- 1481 *Tom-tom or drum* and stick. From H.B.C. post at Seven Islands. Montagnais tribe.
- 1635 *Cradle for baby*, from Obijuan, Quebec. Typical of Eastern Woodlands area.
- 1711 *Cradle, with moss bag* attached, from Nipigon, Ont. Moss bag decorated with bead-work.

## INDIANS—Plains

THE material culture of the Plains Indians is most strikingly associated with the buffalo, or bison, which to them meant food, clothing and shelter.

Buffalo meat is as savoury as fine beef; the thick fur furnished covering and clothing; the hide was used for tepees and boats; from the horns, Indians of the plains made spoons, caps, combs, bows and head-dresses; with the hair they wove belts, lassoes and other objects of use and adornment. Hoofs, horns and scraps of skin furnished glue, and from the bones were fashioned weapons, knives and many useful implements. The stomach of the buffalo was placed in a hole, filled with

water and in this the Plains Indians boiled their dinner by adding red-hot stones. Their calendar was pictured and nearly all their art painted or embroidered on dressed buffalo skin.

The Plains Indians lived on the open grass lands of the great West, the Canadian portion of the area being the southern parts of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Toward the end of the sixteenth century, they became horse Indians, but before that date used the dog as a beast of burden.

The most typical tribes made no pottery nor attempted agriculture, but lived in tepees and roamed the open plains. Their social organization was marked by soldier societies or fraternities, and their religious ceremonies included the sun dance and ghost dance.

Their decorative art was well developed. Clothing and other useful articles made of skin were rendered attractive by designs at first painted or done in quill work and later with beads supplied by the white man.

They had no written language. The spoken languages of the many tribes and sub-tribes were so various that extensive use was made of the "sign" language—made with hands and fingers—by which the Indians made themselves understood to other tribes. The Blackfoot, Blood, Piegan, Plains Crees, Sioux, Sarcee and Stonies are among the better known tribes of the Plains area.

#### HUNTING

- 936 *Bow*, about four feet long, with eleven quilled arrows, iron pointed. Stone points were used before white men introduced iron.
- 156 *Bow and twelve arrows*, with rattlesnake cover. Blood Indian.
- 196 *Quiver and bow case*, with deerskin belt.
- 919 *Buffalo back bone*, with Indian iron arrow point fast in bone, showing the force with which the arrows were driven.

## FOOD PREPARATION

- 932 *Mortar*, on which to crush food such as dried buffalo meat and wild cherries. Fat of buffalo melted over the food sealed and kept it for winter. This was called *pemmican*. It was usually packed in rough bags of buffalo hide called *parfleches*.
- 1671 *Pemmican*, made from dried buffalo meat, Wainwright, Alta., 1922. Important native preserved food. Adopted by early traders. See item 932 above.
- 930a,b *Grooved stones*, used as maul or hammer heads to drive pegs for tepees or tents and to grind dried buffalo meat. Handles were lashed around grooves. This shape is very typical of Plains, rare elsewhere.
- 250 *Dish or flour scoop*, made of mountain sheep horn. Buffalo horn was much used for dishes and spoons.
- 928a,b *Two horn spoons*, taken from Batoche rifle pit in 1885.

## DOMESTIC

- 875 *Model of Cree cradle*, with moss bag attached. Similar types used in Eastern Woodlands. Crees lived in both Plains and Eastern Woodlands areas.
- 215 *Moss bag*, for wrapping child in cradle. Beaded throughout on leather sewn to H.B.C. blue stroud. Blood Indian.
- 887 *Baby teething ring*, beaded. Cree.
- 876 *Child's leather bonnet*, beaded and with bead fringe to hang over face to protect it from mosquitoes.
- 492 *Head ornament*, made of the back of a porcupine pelt, adorned with beads and shells. The quills have been plucked for use in weaving. Plains Cree, Moosomin reserve.
- 499 *Head dress* made of the back of a porcupine. Red Pheasant reserve, 1898.
- 129 *Scented grass necklace*. Blood Indian.
- 868a,b *Two bands of scalp locks*, eight locks in each. One Cree and one Blackfoot Indian.
- 872 *Bone breastplate*, fringed sides, beaded centre. Sioux Indian.
- 754 *Indian scalp shirt*, so called, of finely tanned buckskin fringed and perforated with holes. Adorned with fur and two large bear's claws. Belonged to one of the councillors of Paul's reserve.
- 268 *Leather coat*, heavily beaded and decorated with ermine skins. Probably Blood Indian.
- 1634 *Birch bark basket*.

- 696 *Breast adornment of bone.*
- 879 *Boy's beaded deerskin coat.* Porcupine and moose hair were used before glass beads were introduced by the fur traders.
- 906 *Woman's garment,* made to fall from shoulders to below waist and to cover arms, chest and back. Decorated with rare beads and shells. Shells probably from Africa. Sioux Indian.
- 274 *Leggings.* Cree Indian.
- 103 *Deerskin beaded leggings,* coloured with powdered paint. One inch beaded strips sewn directly on to the deerskin, forming four bands round each leg. Touchwood Cree.
- 218 *Man's leather leggings,* beaded. Blood Indian.
- 678 *Chaps or panlet leggings,* made of blue woollen cloth and adorned with solid beadwork. Paul's reserve.
- 888 *Sash,* four feet long, decorated with dentalium shells, sometimes called wampum, but very different from the well known wampum. Iroquois.
- 897 *Necklace of black beads,* owned and worn by the late Chief Poundmaker's wife.
- 877 *Fancy cuffs,* solid beadwork, large size. Note introduction of glass beads and red ensign, also plant forms, which were absent in Indian art prior to the arrival of Europeans. Cree Indian.
- 873 *Child's beaded leggings,* said to have belonged to Poundmaker's grandchild.
- 874 *Leggings,* beaded, large size.
- 166 *Moccasins,* solid beaded. Blood Indian.
- 1637 *Indian red-stone pipe,* with metal inlaid bowl in tomahawk shape.

## HOUSES

- 903 *Model of typical tepee,* original of buffalo skin, taken from place to place as wood was scarce, except along streams.

## TOOLS

- 931 *Grooved stone axe.*
- 777 *Deer shank skin flesher,* used in preparing the skins for tanning.
- 778 *Iron scraper,* used in preparing skins for tanning.
- 950 *Hide scraper handle,* without scraper. Typical of the Plains. Note syllabic writing. The earliest scrapers were made of stone.

## BAGS

- 165 *Bag,* known as a "parfleche." Blood Indian. The Plains Indians used "parfleches" for carrying and storing their various utensils and possessions, and very largely for storing pemmican.
- 956 *Bag,* made of the skin of a loon. Said to have come from Chief Poundmaker's family.

- 899c *Leather fringed and beaded fire bag, made by a Blackfoot Indian.*  
 1598 *Fire bag, Assiniboine, made of deerskin, ornamented with beads and porcupine quill work in typical Assiniboine Indian design.*

## TRANSPORTATION

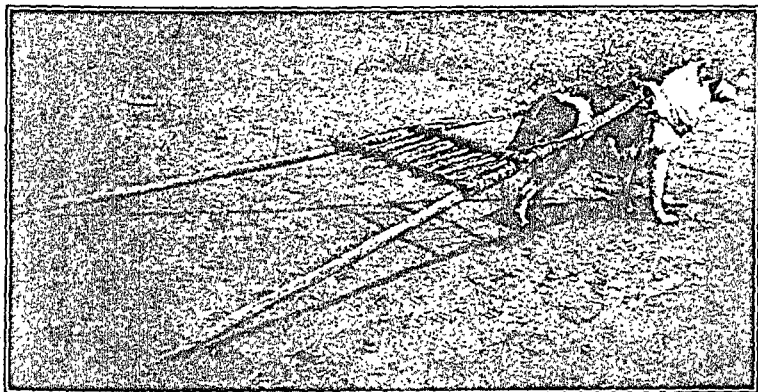
- 200 *Leather saddlecloth, beaded. Blood Indian.*  
 867 *Leather saddle, well beaded. Blackfoot Indian. Glass beads not used until advent of white man.*  
 902 *Double lash riding whip, with bead wrist band. Cree Indian.*  
 118 *Quirt. Touchwood Cree.*

## WAR

- 908 *Sioux war club.*  
 977 *Stone hammer or club. Beaded handle.*  
 1673 *Stone head for war club, Plains area. Presented by Mrs. W. Cornwallis King.*  
 746 *Pipe tomahawk, probably used only for ceremonial or swagger.*

## MUSIC

- 133 *Dance rattle. Blood Indian.*  
 918 *Indian wand, six feet in height and trimmed with eagle feathers. Used to lead processions in dances and Indian ceremonies.*



*Dog Travois—Early means of transportation used by Plains tribes.  
 Picture from H. I. Smith, Ottawa.*

INDIANS—*Mackenzie*

THE Mackenzie "culture area" may be said to have as its indicator the sign of the caribou. In the daily lives of the Indians of that vast fur empire of Canada stretching from the Rocky Mountains almost to Hudson Bay and from northern Saskatchewan and Alberta to the shores of the Arctic sea, the caribou was probably the most important single factor.

The flesh of the caribou was the chief item of food, although the natives used large quantities of fresh-water fish. Caribou hide was used for covering their tepees, for sleeping robes and outer clothing. They knew how to tan the caribou skin so that it was as soft as chamois and as white as kid.

Upon this the Indian women worked beautiful designs with porcupine quills which were dyed in many colours. In recent years silk and glass beads have been used. Moccasins, vests, ceremonial shirts, gloves, fire-bags, belts and other accessories of dress were made from the soft finished caribou skin and thus decorated.

*Babiche* (rawhide from the caribou, moose or deer) was fashioned into snowshoes, bags, snares and other useful articles.

The use of birch bark in many ways also is characteristic of this area. Canoes, pails, flower pots and cooking utensils were made from birch bark. There was no pottery and no agriculture. The chief occupations of the Indians were hunting and trapping.

Indian handicraft of this area is notable for beautiful embroidery in porcupine quills on clothing and many objects of utility. The principal tribes living in the Mackenzie "culture area" are Loucheux, Crees, Dogribs, Slaveys and Chipewyans.

The Hudson's Bay Company's traders first came in contact with the natives of the Mackenzie area at Fort Chipewyan in 1788.

## HUNTING AND FISHING

- 434a *Fish net*, of willow thread. Bark from willow root branches was woven into thread from which nets were made. Fish were used for dog feed as well as for human consumption.
- 698 *Quiver*, for bow and arrows. Stoney.
- 472 *Machine for putting caps in cartridges*, made from an antler by an Indian. The pattern, however, is after white men. Loucheux.
- 767 *Saddle or travois bag*, made from the fur of deer legs, and with laced tops. Stoney Indian. Paul's reserve.
- 801 *Saddle or travois bag*, for packing provisions and supplies, made of caribou leg skins.
- 812 *Saddle bags*, made of deerskin. Stoney.
- 916 *Birch bark canoe*, model, made in Athabasca.
- 389 *Hunting bag*, beaded, made of strips of rawhide, typical of this area. Style of netting and weaving this rawhide work is worthy of note.
- 390 *Hunting bag*, silk worked, made of strips of rawhide.
- 251 *Hunting bag*, silk worked, made of strips of rawhide.
- 901 *Beaded bag*, with leather top, a modern type of the bags made of netted strips of rawhide. Cree.
- 427 *Bags*, made of swans' feet, typical of the Mackenzie region. Cree.
- 428 *Bags*, made of swans' feet, typical of the Mackenzie region. Cree.
- 429 *Bag*, made of geese feet. Cree.
- 519 *Pair of beaver jaws*.

## TRANSPORTATION

- 450 *Men's snowshoes*, made narrow for use in the bush. Loucheux. Characteristic of the Mackenzie River Indian is the use of rawhide strips.
- 451 *Women's snowshoes*, made narrow for use in the bush. Loucheux.
- 470 *Child's snowshoes*. Loucheux.
- 392 *Pack strap*, used for carrying loads. This specimen is typically Indian but made from white man's material.

## MUSIC

- 354 *Circular drum or tomtom*, made of buffalo skin by Indian, probably from south shore of Great Slave lake. The only buffalo herd now remaining wild in Canada is in the Great Slave lake area.
- 494 *Rattle or "scare devil" tomtom*, used by medicine men to shake over sick ones in order to drive out evil spirit. Cree.
- 1157 *Large drum*.

## ART

- 600 *Belt* with woven porcupine quill work on buckskin, edged with beads—a splendid example of its kind. Made by Morley Indians and given to a Stoney Indian on Paul's reserve at "Treaty Time."
- 189a *Belt*, ornamented with porcupine quills from the Peace River country.
- 189b,c *Arm Straps* ornamented with porcupine quills. From Peace river country.
- 406a,b,c *Hat bands*, woven of porcupine quill work, made on a hand loom. Chipewyan.
- 406d,e *Loom*, for weaving porcupine belts. A fine specimen; not many of these looms have been collected.
- 348 *Beaded watch pocket*, of good design. Cree.
- 894 *Belt ornament*, with porcupine quills of good design. Made in the Yukon. Nahana Indians.
- 405a,d *Hatbands*, of bead work. Cree.
- 407 *Women's stomacher or belt*. Porcupine quill work. The beauty of this work can only be fully appreciated after it has been unravelled. Cree.
- 408 *Shirt sleeve bands*, of quill work. Cree.
- 409 *Shirt sleeve bands*. Quill work. Cree.
- 441 *Suit of clothes*, of finest caribou hide, adorned with porcupine work.
- 548 *Hatband work*, with porcupine quills and beads of very fine design. Made by daughter of Chief Benjamin Cutfinger of Lac Ste. Anne, Alberta. Cree.
- 385 *Woman's work bag*, beaded. Mackenzie River. Loucheux.
- 563 *Bag*, made of tame caribou skin worked with porcupine quills. This specimen is very fine both as regards colour and weaving.
- 335 *Strap*, used for carrying papoose. Porcupine quills. Loucheux.
- 941 *Two flower pots*, made of birch bark. Typical of this region.



INDIANS—*Pacific Coast*

GIANT cedar trees and salmon chiefly influenced the material culture of the Pacific Coast Indians. Salmon was their principal food. From the cedars were made seagoing and river canoes, huge community houses, pails, paddles, boxes, spoons, fish traps, totem poles, drums, masks, and symbolic carvings. Cedar branches were twisted for rope, and the bark was woven into hats, cloaks, capes, raincoats, mats and baskets.

They lived in huge houses, the frames being of red cedar logs and the covering of wide boards split with wooden wedges. These houses varied in size from about 40 feet square to about 40 feet by 220 feet, and were built in villages.

These Indians were expert carpenters, wood carvers and canoe builders. They made no pottery, but are noted for their woven and sewed coil baskets and for the Chilkat blanket, which, although coarse in texture, is one of the most remarkable examples of weaving in the world. Their handicraft is quite distinctive, both in materials used and general workmanship, from that of other "culture areas."

The art of these Indians is peculiar and characteristic. Designs of both geometric and animal forms were painted, carved and woven. Plant forms were not copied until after contact with Europeans.

Pacific Coast Indians were extremely devoted to property and personal privilege. Among them certain individuals had a right to give particular rituals or dances, to have a particular story carved on his or her totem pole to indicate the mythology of the family ancestry. Large copper plates of symbolic shape were used in financial transactions, and some of them were highly valued. Property was given to the people of their own and neighbouring tribes, and

involved a return of property with interest resembling endowment insurance and dowry. The giving was accompanied by feasting, and was called a *pollach*.

The Pacific Coast "culture area" extends from Mount McKinley in Alaska along the coast to California. The Haida, Tsinshean, Tlingit and Nootka are the best known tribes of the area, and the purest of the culture centred around Prince Rupert and the Queen Charlotte islands.

Hudson's Bay Company's traders first came in contact with the Indians of this area at the mouth of the Fraser river in 1827.

#### HUNTING AND FISHING

- 972c *Canoe paddle*, made of cedar, with painted animal, conventional design, which painting is typical of the Pacific Coast.
- 1045 *Model of dugout oceangoing canoe*, made of cedar. Probably Nootka. Canoes of this shape were known as Chinook canoes, and were used on the southern coast of British Columbia and as far south as the Columbia river. The Haida type of canoe was used in the North. Canoes are not now so commonly used on the sea, because some of the Indians now use motor boats, some of which they themselves build.
- 1072 *Model of fish trap*. The people of the Pacific Coast lived chiefly on salmon and clams. They made a great variety of fish traps.
- 1025 *Detachable spear point*. When an animal was speared with this type of point it became detached so that the spear handle was not broken by its struggles.
- 1068 *Same*.
- 1024b *Halibut hook*, with bone barb.
- 1044 *Halibut hook*, with iron barb, but with line made of red cedar bark.
- 1033 *Halibut hook*, with iron barb carved in the art of the Pacific Coast.
- 1023 *Halibut hook*.
- 1024a *Halibut hook*, with iron barb.
- 1067 *Tom cod hook*.

## HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS

- 1038 *Wooden dish.* Good typical Pacific Coast art.
- 1022 *Small food dish,* carved out of one piece of wood. Many dishes of this shape were used. The scars of the tools used in making it form its decoration.
- 1031 *Spoon,* made of wood.
- 1049 *Spoon,* made of wood.
- 1070 *Spoon,* made of wood.
- 1071a *Spoon,* made of the horn of the mountain sheep.
- 1008 *Spoon,* made of the horn of the mountain goat.
- 1015-16 *Spoons,* carved. The horn was split and steamed, then the spoon bowl was formed by moulding the horn between wooden dies or shapers. Well-to-do people had many of these spoons, the handles of which were carved with conventional figures of their totemic animals.
- 984 *Spoon,* copper and sheep-horn, Pacific coast.
- 1001 *Box,* made of two pieces of red cedar. One piece is used for the bottom and the other forms the sides and ends. The wood is notched and bent at three corners and pegged at the fourth. Cedar was split out with wooden wedges, smoothed with adzes and sandpapered with shark skin. The people of this area were the expert carpenters among the Indians.
- 964a,b *Box,* made of red cedar wood, as above, with third piece of wood for cover. Note the lashings of rope made of red cedar bark, and that the top of box can be opened without removing the lashings from the other parts of the box. This was the usual style of box lashings.
- 1517 *Pail,* birchbark. When in use is set high over fire. Stitched with spruce root twine and ornamented with dyed swan quills. A typical example of Chilcotin Athapascan Indian work from Bella Coola, B.C., made by Mrs. Charlie West, July, 1922.

## CLOTHING

- 982 *Cape,* made of yellow cedar bark woven. The weaving is twine rather than wicker.

## TOOLS

- 1027 *Adze blade*, made of stone. This type was used before iron was available from the white people.
- 1007 *Adze*, with blade made of a file. Such pieces of metal were obtained from the whites and took the place of the stone adze blades formerly used. This type of handle was used in the southern part of the coast of British Columbia; in the north a long handle was used.
- 1005 *Adze*, with blade made of longitudinal half of an axe head. After the introduction of steel axes by the white people, the Indians frequently cut axe heads in two and used them as adze blades in place of the stone blades. These people were expert carpenters and boat builders.
- 1026 *Chisel, or carving knife*, with blade made of steel. Beaver teeth were formerly used for this purpose.
- 1063 *Bark beater*, made of bone of the whale, used for softening yellow cedar bark which was to be woven into cloaks and capes.
- 1000 *Hackler*, made of bone of the whale. Cedar bark was freed of the hard parts by shearing it with this hackler over the edge of a paddle used by women.
- 1533 *Bailer* for dipping eulachon oil and bailing canoes.

## MATS AND BASKETS

- 963 *Mat*, made of red cedar bark, checker weaving. The mat is a typical example of the use of red cedar. Such mats were used for general purposes, that is as eating mats, waterproofs, or tarpaulins for bundles, and for covering canoes to keep them from strong sunshine.
- 1090a,b *Baskets*, with geometric design from the Nookta Indians. The base is checker weaving made of red cedar bark. Vertical and horizontal elements are cedar bark, the wrap twined element, grass. The native-made dyes gave better results than the substitutes which the Indians later got from the white men.
- 1087a,b *Same as above*, except that they have the representations of animal forms and canoes of the Chinook type. The wrapped twine weave is also used—very coarse and open for clam baskets, but with fine material and the twining element pushed close. It gives an entirely different appearance, such as is illustrated by this specimen.

The weaving of the two types of basket appears very different, but is the same.

- 1089a,b *Basket*, with geometric design, otherwise same as above. The colours are somewhat better.
- 255a,b *Basket*, made by Nootka Indians, west coast of Vancouver island at Cape Flattery.
- 1084 *Basket*, twine weave.

## MUSIC

- 998 *Circular skin drum*. Large rectangular drums made of wood, perhaps four feet long by three feet wide, were also used. They were held on one narrow edge and were sometimes tuned by being partly filled with water. They are usually painted in the art peculiar to this area. Drums are used for dances and rituals. The small circular skin drums were widely distributed in other "culture areas" and used with singing during gambling games.
- 1522 *Drum*, made of two pieces of red cedar bent at the three corners, beaten with the fist. Believed to have been the last drum of this kind at Bella Coola. Typical of entire coast. Bella Coola Indians.
- 1062 *Whistle*, made of red cedar lashed with rootlets. Such instruments were used to make the cry of certain mythical beings during rituals. They were never shown to the uninitiated common people.
- 1020 *Rattle*, used by doctors and dancers.

## RITUAL

- 997 *Sword or club*, made of bone of the whale, with handle wound with red cedar bark. This is a crude specimen of the type which was used on western Vancouver island and in the immediate vicinity. Probably chiefly used as a swagger stick.
- 1002 *Mask*, probably from the Bella Coola Indians. The Bella Coola probably came to the coast from the interior. They seem to have imperfectly taken up the coast culture. This crude mask illustrates this.
- 1003 *Mask*. The animal figure on top may be tipped up and opened like a fan. This specimen illustrates the clever mechanical devices employed by the Indians of this area in their ritualistic paraphernalia. Many masks were made to open and close the mouth, roll or close the eyes, etc.
- 1664 *Chilkat Blanket*. Ceremonial blanket or robe of the Chilkat tribe of Alaska. Remarkable example of native weaver's skill,

made of white wool of mountain goat, native dyed, with a core of red cedar bark running through the warp. Totemic designs cover entire space within border lines. This form of native weaving is now almost extinct. Hand labour by native women.

- 957 *Neck ring or bandolier*, made of red cedar bark. Worn in ritual or dances of one of the secret societies. Many such neck rings were used.

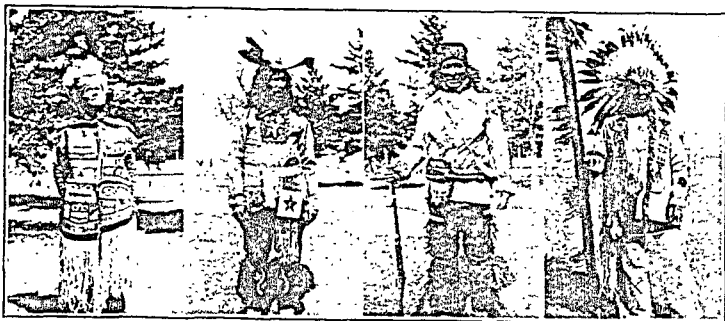
### FINANCE

- 959-60 "*Coppers*." They are characteristic of the Pacific Coast area and are one of the important objects in the financial system. They increase in value as they are transferred and may be depreciated in value also. 2,000 blankets were given for one of them as late as 1898. They are represented in wood and used in houses, on graves, etc., to announce the wealth and importance of those Indians who have owned them.

- 990 *Gambling sticks in sack of sealskin*. They were used in games similar to three card monte or shell game.

### ART

- 1061 *Painted carving*, representing killer whale.



*Tsinshean*

*Ojibway*

*Swampy Cree*

*Wapeton Sioux*

## IV.—LIFE IN THE SERVICE

CONDITIONS in the H.B.C. fur trade naturally varied to a large extent over the vast territory controlled by the Company, due to the differences of climate and environment from Labrador to British Columbia and from beyond the Arctic circle to south of the international boundary. Life in the service has also had its changing aspects in every district from the time H.B.C. began operations in the days of the Stuarts down to to-day. Limitation of space will therefore not permit giving a detailed impression of the subject, but a few of the general characteristics may be of value in forming a picture of the fur trader's life.

### EMPLOYMENT

FROM earliest times, it has been a policy of H.B.C. to draw to its service young men from the Orkneys and other parts of Scotland because experience seemed to establish the fact that young men from that quarter of Great Britain were better able to adapt themselves to the rigorous life and climate of Northern Canada. The first records of young Scotchmen being engaged by the Company are dated 1707. Apprentice clerks are still being brought yearly from Scotland.

Young men without previous experience were usually first employed as apprentice clerks on five-year contracts. After the expiration of this period, if the young man proved himself capable, he signed another contract as clerk for three years. The subsequent steps of promotion in the service were those of trader, junior chief trader, chief trader, factor, chief factor and inspecting chief factor. The lowest

"commissioned" rank was that of junior chief trader. Above that rank were the "officers"; below that rank, all white men or Indians employed by the Hudson's Bay Company were known as "clerks" and "servants."

Indians were employed by the Company as trappers, guides, boatmen, interpreters and traders. Natives or half-breeds sometimes rose to positions of responsibility in the service.

1499 *Apprentice clerk's contract, 1885-1890.* Contract of C. F. Thacker, signed by Wm. Clark, chief factor, Winnipeg, November 9th, 1885. The old form of wording which emphasizes loyalty to the service is included, for example ". . . and that he will with courage and fidelity in his said station, in the said service, defend the property of the said Company and their Factories and Settlements . . . ."

1223 *Contract of William Nourse, of Edinburgh, aged 23 years, for three years' service with the Hudson's Bay Company, May 17, 1817.* Photographic copy presented December 7, 1921, by Mr. C. G. K. Nourse, manager Canadian Bank of Commerce, Winnipeg, grandson of William Nourse. The wages agreed were forty pounds sterling per year. The contract was extended for an additional year's service at an increased wage of fifty pounds by John Davis, in behalf of the Company, at Martin's Falls, Hudson Bay.

1224 *Chief trader's commission, issued to William Nourse by the Hudson's Bay Company, November 15, 1837.* Photographic copy presented on December 5th, 1921, by Mr. C. G. K. Nourse, manager Canadian Bank of Commerce, Winnipeg.

Chief Traders were concerned with defence as well as trade, as the following extract from a letter from James Keith, Hudson's Bay Company, Lachine, April 18, 1838, to William Nourse, H.B.C., Sault Ste. Marie, testifies:

*"I have therefore to request that on receipt of this you will merely reserve the powder and arms required for the immediate use of the trade and protection of the Company's Establishment; and afford every assistance and facility in your power to get the remaining arms and ammunition removed to the Government Stores at*



*Penetanguishene, where His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada has been pleased to say he would order their being received.*" (Public Archives of Canada, North West Series "C," Vol. 364, p. 177, R. 15381.)

- 3 *Chief Factor's commission*, issued to John Hodgson by the Hudson's Bay Company, May 25th, 1803.
- 1612 *Long Service Medals*. The award of long service medals by the
- 1613 Hudson's Bay Company to its employees was instituted in 1920
- 1614 as a part of the 250th anniversary celebrations, the governor,
- 1615 Sir Robert Kindersley, G.B.E., personally presenting the medals to as many of the recipients as possible. The award of the medals has been continued each year since 1920. No. 1612 is a silver medal for 15 years' service. No. 1613 is the silver bar awarded for each additional five years' service up to 25 years. No. 1614 is the gold medal for 30 years' service and No. 1615 the gold bar for each additional five years' service.
- 1616 *Long Service Button*. Enamelled button issued to each holder of a long service medal. The button is worn on the coat lapel when the wearing of the medal would be inconvenient.
- 1607-8-9 *Bronze medals and book* distributed in 1920 in commemoration of 250th Anniversary of the Hudson's Bay Co. Book commonly called "The Brochure," but the actual title is "The Hudson's Bay Company, 1670-1920." Author, Sir William Schooling, K.B.E.

## TRADE

THE "outfit" of 1672 for H.B.C. fur trade posts was two hundred fowling pieces with powder and shot, as many brass kettles, twelve gross knives and a thousand hatchets. The trade was, and largely still is, conducted by barter, modified, however, in later times by what may be termed a temporary currency.

Indians came to the posts to trade usually in the summer, when the swift birch bark canoes would encounter no ice. Natives directly tributary to posts, however, often came to trade in winter. They entered the forts three or four at a time and delivered the furs to the traders who alone

of the Company's servants were permitted to have direct intercourse with the Indians. The trader examined the skins and indicated to each hunter what he was prepared to give in exchange. At one period eight to twelve beaver skins would be taken for a gun; one beaver for a half-pound of powder, for a pound of tobacco or half-pound of beads. At first the amount of payment was left to the judgment of the factor, but in the eighteenth century the Company began to issue at London annually a "tariff" specifying the values for H.B.C. traders to give in exchange. This ultimately developed into a nominal standard, and resulted in the "made-beaver" system. For convenience, quills of the porcupine, small pegs of wood and later brass coins issued by the Company were designated as *beavers* or *skins*. The Indian wishing to sell a pelt would be given a number of these tokens instead of money; he in turn would spend his made-beavers or quills for food or powder or tobacco.

This process did not exhaust the ability of the natives to obtain supplies. They were given goods on credit, and seldom defaulted in such debts. H.B.C. traders knew the ability and character of each; and, even if an Indian died, his family usually paid his debt.

In earlier years the wants of the Indian were comparatively few. Gradually, however, the stocks of merchandise in H.B.C. post stores have become more varied. To-day they include traps, guns, ammunition, gilling twine, nets, knives, hatchets, fishing tackle, needles, pins, cotton prints, wool cloth, cooking utensils, carpenters' tools, paint, groceries and canned goods, musical instruments, stationery, tobacco, candy, toys and footwear. The famous Hudson's Bay point blanket has been a trade article for several generations.

- 866 *The ceremony of the pipe.* Long before the Hudson's Bay Company commenced trading with the Indians, the pipe was the recognized symbol of friendship and good faith. The smoking of the pipe accompanied the cessation of wars, and it was the prelude to trade between the Indians and the Company when furs were brought to the posts to be exchanged for the goods which the Indians needed. The stem of the pipe was usually three or four feet long and elaborately decorated. The factor took it in both hands and pointed the end of the stem first to the east or sunrise, then upwards to the zenith, next to the west and finally downwards to the nadir. He took three or four hearty whiffs and then presented it to the chief of the Indians. It was passed around the whole of the party, with the exception of the women, and when the tobacco was consumed the factor whirled it three times around his head and laid it with great deliberation on the table. The conclusion of the ceremony was greeted with a loud shout, after which speeches were made expressive of good will, and then the trading commenced.
- A notable and significant ceremony of the pipe took place at Lower Fort Garry, Winnipeg, 1920, when Sir Robert Kindersley, governor of the Company, smoked a specially made pipe with a large number of Indians who had assembled from all parts of the country to renew their pledge of friendship with the *Great Company of Adventurers* which had been among their people for 250 years.
- 93 *Made-beavers.* Brass trade tokens or coins used in bartering for skins from the Indians. Coins represent 1,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ , and  $\frac{1}{8}$  made-beaver.
- 82a,j *Ten Eskimo trading counters.*
- 1537 *H.B.C. paper currency*, known as "blankets." Denominations, £1, 5s. and 1s. These specimens dated 1821, 1840, 1845, 1857.
- 1539 *Five shillings* (1820) one pound (1821). Presented by Mr. C. Harding, H.B.C., York Factory.
- 1617 *Cheque*, dated Calgary, N.W.T., July 12, 1886; drawn on Lafferty and Smith and payable to the H.B.Co. Lafferty and Smith were the first private bankers in Calgary and one of the first in the N.W.T. Presented by Mr. J. S. Braidwood, July, 1923.
- 1220 *Rifle*, Springfield, 1839. Used extensively in trade with Indians for furs and used by Blackfeet, Crees and Stoneys for hunting buffalo. A muzzle-loading rifle, converted from flint-lock to percussion cap. Butt branded "Siberia."

- 1810 *Old H.B.C. ledger*, 1829, converted into box.
- 934b *Flint-lock gun*, about 200 years old, fitted with curious safety trigger. Powder pan cover missing. Gun was found to contain powder and lead when recently cleaned.
- 935 *Muzzle-loading, percussion cap gun*. W. Andrews, London, 1892. Cut short owing to barrel having burst. Brass snake furniture.
- 1632 *Old flint-lock gun* marked "Parker, Field & Co., 1870, London." Found on an Eskimo grave between Churchill and Cape Eskimo and presented to the exhibit by Dr. K. Birket-Smith of the Danish Arctic Expedition (Rasmussen, 1921-23). The ramrod is of three pieces of wood, spliced together and rivetted.
- 398 *Flint-lock gun*, used last for rabbit shooting by a Loucheux Indian of Mackenzie river. Maker, Hollis, London.
- 24 *Gunflints*.
- 1319 *Gun*, single barrel, muzzle loading. Trade name, "No. 2 Imperial," made in England. Guns and ammunition have always been among the trade goods of the Company. Muzzle loading guns of the type shown here are still in demand for certain purposes in preference to any others.
- 434b,c *Powder horn* and bag of caps, etc.
- 886a,b *Powder horn* and shot pouch with caps, shot and bullets. Used formerly by Chief Starblanket.
- 575 *Handmade axe*, found near Lake Manitou by W. J. Malyon, North Battleford, Sask., in 1908.
- 1314 *Hudson's Bay kettles and covers*, made from copper sheet, tinned inside. These kettles were one of the earliest articles of trade and to
- 1318 were also used by the Company's men. There is still a large demand for them. The smaller sizes pack inside the larger. Five sizes, 1, 1½, 2 and 3 quarts, 1 gallon.
- 1320a,c *Three fish oil lamps, tinplate*, now obsolete, but formerly used in trade in large quantities.
- 1321a,f *Six Ely gas-tight pin-fire cartridge cases*, No. 12.
- 1324a,b *Two canoe knives*, steel, one each right and left hand. Trade articles.
- 83a,b *Two Eskimo snow knives*, made of steel in Sheffield and of a similar pattern to the native Eskimo knife made of stone. These knives are still sold in the H.B.C. trading posts.
- 39 *Scales*. Old beam scales dated 1750 and used at Moose Factory.
- 40a,g *Seven weights for above*, 1lb. to 56 lbs., Moose Factory.
- 1400 *Copper powder magazine*. Used only on the Pacific coast, due to damp weather. Used by the Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Simpson. From C. H. French, Vancouver.

- 1401 *Set of copper powder measures.* Used for measuring instead of weighing. Manufactured at Fort Simpson by the Company's blacksmith. From C. H. French, Vancouver.
- 1405 *Gold scales.* Brought to Barkerville from San Francisco in 1858. Used by the Bank of British Columbia during their operation, finally transferred back to H.B.C. and continued in use until the closing of the Barkerville store in 1880. The main output of the Cariboo gold fields passed over these scales. From C. H. French, Vancouver.
- 1675 *Seal used by Commissioners J. Wrigley and C. C. Chipman for private correspondence.* The seal contains merely the crest of the Company, not the full coat-of-arms. Presented by J. Wilson, Winnipeg.
- 1681 *Letterweight* said to have been used constantly by Sir George Simpson. Presented by J. Parkinson, Winnipeg.
- 1445 *Three bullet moulds.* Many different kinds of these were used in the H.B.C. service. From C. H. French, Vancouver.
- 1447 *Bear Gun.* Used in the trade, but not extensively. From C. H. French, Vancouver.
- 2 *Diary of inspection of the Northern Districts, August, 1872, to January, 1873,* by the late Inspecting Chief Factor W. J. Christie, with sundry memoranda enclosed. Presented by J. G. M. Christie.
- 1599 *Blotter or Day Book,* Kamloops, B.C., Thompson River district, January 3rd, 1870, to April 29th, 1871. This book records daily transactions in sales of goods and purchases of furs. A "blotter" was kept at all trading posts. Received from Mr. A. E. Dodman, January 5th, 1923.
- 1882 *Hudson's Bay Company gold medallion,* prize to Royal Agricultural and Industrial Society, High School Agricultural Associations, etc., also to Vancouver Pioneers' Association.

## DEFENCE

CANNON, muskets, sabres, swords, rifles and bayonets were part of the equipment of H.B.C. men in earlier times because of the necessity for defending forts and posts against hostile raids of trading rivals or unruly natives. Such weapons were more often used in the fights and wars around Hudson Bay than inland. The Exhibit shows some of these weapons which have come down from the men who used them to protect the flag of H.B.C.

- 1221 *Ship's Cutlass,* brass handle and hilt; hilt marked "Labouchere." Sword is in plain leather scabbard. Length over all is 35 inches. This sword or cutlass is believed to have come from the steamship

*Labouchere*, which in 1866 was considered to be the best sea boat on the Pacific coast and was engaged to carry mail between San Francisco and Victoria at a subsidy of \$1,500 per trip which Governor Birch proposed should be paid jointly by the two colonies. On April 15th, 1866, on her second trip under the mail contract, the *Labouchere* was wrecked at Point Reyes, one passenger named Wilson and a waiter being drowned.

- 59 Muzzle-loading, percussion-cap rifle. Tower 1857. Short Enfield.  
 28a,b,c Three steel bayonets.  
 61a,q Nine steel bayonets and eight sheaths, from Lower Fort Garry.  
 62a,b Chief Factor's swords.  
 1881 Scottish short sword. Silver mountings on scabbard, snake-skin handle, approximate date 1820.

## RECREATION

THE life of H.B.C. men in the fur trade often afforded a certain amount of leisure between trading seasons, and the men were thrown upon their own resources. The result was that many of them kept journals and wrote long letters home, and much material is available from these manuscripts for sketching the nature of the life in different places and at various times.

R. M. Ballantyne, who started as an apprentice clerk at York Factory, was among those who turned his spare time to the pursuit of literature. He produced several books, of which the best known is his *Hudson Bay*, 1848. Other H.B.C. men who have written of life in the service are Dr. Rae, Isaac Cowie (*The Company of Adventurers*), Roderick MacFarlane, N. M. W. J. MacKenzie, J. J. Hargrave and W. C. King.

Nearly every large post had its library, and books and newspapers were sent regularly to the various forts with the supplies. One factor on the Labrador coast, it is said, had his London *Times* at breakfast daily, but the newspaper was one year old.

Hunting and fishing provided a certain amount of re-

creation for the younger clerks of the service, but to the older and experienced men who spent much time in the woods this was not sport but only a means of obtaining food when extra supplies were needed.

To pass away long hours of leisure at the lonely posts of the northland, H.B.C. men frequently played whist, cribbage, backgammon, dominoes, checkers, chess and other well known games.

Musical instruments, such as small organs, violins, 'cellos, banjos, accordions, bagpipes, mouth organs and harps were commonly in the possession of H.B.C. men, and welcome diversion was often provided by these means.

"Country dances" were held at important posts two or three times a year, at which there would often be in attendance all of the white, Indian and half-breed population within a day's paddle or dog-team run. The Red River jig, old country square dances, and native dances were the rule of the day, and many enjoyable occasions were featured by such diversions.

Altogether the life of the fur trader was not devoid of its pleasures and pastimes, and today such sports as tennis, bowling on the green, skiing, tobogganing and motor boating may be enjoyed by H.B.C. men at posts that are comparatively near to the settled portions of Canada, while radio has done much to lessen the sense of distance and loneliness at the farther flung trading posts.

- 9      *Flint-lock, muzzle-loading gun* made by Barnett, London. Brass butt plate is engraved, "Simon McTavish, 1798, H.B.C."
- 476    *Automatic bear trap*, made from a sawn-off shot gun, double-barrelled, with a mouse trap arranged with a heavy lead striker. The whole set arranged so that when the bear pulled the bait it automatically discharged the gun.
- 373    *Gun case or cover*, made of deerskin beautifully worked with porcupine quills. Made by Mackenzie river Indians.

- 1672 *Skates* made at York Factory in 1900 by H.B.C. blacksmith Tom Macpherson. Blades made from old files. Presented by Mrs. W. Cornwallis King, December, 1923.
- 396 *Whaling spear of malleable iron*, attached to whaling line of whale skin rope and used for harpooning walrus and whales.
- 318 *Fish net*, made of the rootlets of the willow. Very fine specimen. Eskimo.
- 943 *Rawhide lariat*, 60 feet in length, four strands.
- 1134 *Cribbage board*, made of two walrus tusks.

## TRANSPORTATION

THE first transportation between Canada and England was, of course, effected by sailing boats. The first boat was the *Nonsuch*, a model of which is shown in this Exhibit in the division of *Early History*, page 8, No. 1225. Sailing boats for the ocean voyage were used for a long time, but of course have gradually been replaced by steamers.

Within Canada, transportation in the early days was carried on in summer by canoes and boats of various types and in winter by sleighs, toboggans, and snowshoes, native equipment being chiefly used, of which there are several models and exhibits among the Indian work. These methods of travel are still in use.

The Company dispatched "brigades" from fort to fort on regular schedules, bringing fur from inland districts and taking back the "outfit" or supplies for the ensuing season. Such brigades consisted of a number of freight canoes; canoes and York boats; York boats alone; a train of Red River carts; or a group of toboggans, "carioles," and dog teams. Experienced rivermen, Indian paddlers and *coureurs de bois* manned these brigades and their feats of travel are worthy of admiration and remembrance. They were frequently required to make junctions with other brigades in the wilds after travelling for several weeks, and none was ever more than a few days or a few miles "out" at the meeting place.



Mail packets, travelling on schedule time, selected the lighter and fleetest equipment in each instance and carried news and good cheer to H.B.C. men sometimes over a route two thousand miles long. Winter or summer, it was the same to them; and the loss of any package was an extremely rare occurrence. Though the men and dogs have starved, frozen, drowned or been devoured by wolves, the packet has nearly always been brought in somehow.

When the Company's activities were extended to the plains, Red River carts made entirely of wood came into being and were used particularly for transport south of the Red river down to the United States in the period when there was railroad transportation east and west there but not in Canada. Another main travelled route for the Red River carts ran westward to Portage la Prairie and on by way of Fort Ellice to Carlton House, a distance of some five hundred miles. Later on, that route was extended to Edmonton House, a thousand miles in all; it was a whole summer's work to make the trip from Fort Garry to Edmonton House and return. The Indian ponies, or "Shaganappies," as they were called, were used for lighter freighting. For the heavy freighting, each cart carrying a load of about eight hundred pounds, oxen were used; they travelled fifteen or twenty miles a day. There were a hundred and fifty carts in the brigade which started for Edmonton in the spring of 1873.

York boats were introduced by Governor Simpson, who was Governor from 1821 to 1860. These boats were able to carry as much as five tons of freight and were handled by nine men. A brigade of York boats would carry bales of furs from Red river to York Factory and bring back supplies brought by the Company's ships from England.

The Company's S.S. *Beaver* sailed for the Pacific coast in 1835, and was the first steamer to round Cape Horn. In 1853 the Company's S.S. *Otter* was the first screw-propeller steamer on the north Pacific coast.

Steam, sail, oil or gasoline power boats are all now in use by the Company on inland waters in Canada and around the sea coasts, in addition to the three ocean-going steamships, *Nascopee*, *Bayrupert* and *Baychimo*.

**1227-28** *Ship's telegraph and whistle control from S.S. Pelican.* This boat carried supplies for the Company to its northern posts from 1901 until 1920. She was built at H.M. dockyard, Devonport, and launched in April, 1877; whilst in the royal navy she had a displacement of 1,300 tons, carried six guns, and had a complement of 140 officers and men; she was a sister ship to the famous *H.M.S. Condor*, commanded by the late Admiral Lord Charles Beresford at the siege of Alexandria.

The name *Pelican* was used for ships in the royal navy from 1577, the time of Drake, until 1900, when the name appeared for the last time in the navy list.

The H.B.C.'s S.S. *Pelican* was dismantled at St. John's, Newfoundland, in 1921, when these articles were taken from her as souvenirs.

**1493** *Picture frame souvenir of the H.B.C. late S.S. Pelican.* Also photograph of S.S. *Pelican*. See items Nos. 1227, 1228. When the *H.M.S. Pelican* was acquired from the royal navy by H.B.C. in 1901, the cabins were dismantled. A mahogany board taken from the commander's berth was given to Mr. H. M. S. Cotter and he made this frame from it. There are over 700 pieces of wood in the frame, the making of which occupied many hours at the Company's Davis Inlet post, Labrador. Loaned by Mr. H. M. S. Cotter.

**1544-45** *Two copper tokens, gilded.* Made from metal taken from the wreck of the Hudson's Bay Company's S.S. *Beaver*, the first steamship on the Pacific. Presented by Mr. A. E. Howard, Vancouver, January 3rd, 1923.

**1218** *Cariole.* A typical carirole of the smaller size used in the Athabasca district about 1880. Body of carirole is made of hide painted green on the outside. Much larger and more ornamental cariroles were used generally by chief factors on their tours of inspection.

1161 Ox yoke, from Moose Factory.

1237 Packet and letter box. Mr. W. Cornwallis King, retired chief trader, has kindly supplied the following information:

"This packet box was made from a bench which had been used by the Indian chiefs and headmen trading at Cumberland House before 1850. The bench was removed to the district office at Cumberland House, made into a box, painted yellow, and divided in three or four compartments with the initials of the various districts marked on the outside.

"Slits in the top or seat portion allowed letters and accounts to be dropped into the compartments below. Cumberland House received the northern district's mail as well as Saskatchewan, Edmonton, York Factory, Norway House, Fort Garry and European mails. This was about 1860, during the time of Chief Factor Roderick MacKenzie, commonly known as 'Big Red Roderick.'

"Again, the old combined bench and packet box was promoted, painted with a new coat of red paint, and the signs of four districts were painted on the front in white as now shown.

Red River—Grasshoppers and the Manitoba crocus.

Norway House—A deer's head with antlers.

Saskatchewan—Two buffalo.

Cumberland—A bear.

"The artist who painted the district signs was Mr. Charles Adams, clerk and acting accountant up to about 1872. Mr. Adams resigned and took up ranching in Southern Alberta. Chief Factor H. Belanger was the officer in charge, and when he was moved to Norway House, about 1896, this old box was taken with him.

"After Mr. Belanger was drowned at Norway House, Commissioner C. C. Chipman ordered all relics and documents, etc., to be forwarded to Lower Fort Garry, about the year 1902. The old box has now found a well-earned resting place in the Company's collection at Winnipeg."

1606 Tumpline—rawhide line with head piece: a forehead support while carrying heavy packs on the back.

1883 Medals awarded by Hudson's Bay Company to the rescuers of the crew of the *Lady Kindersley*, which was caught in the ice in the western Arctic in August, 1924.

## EXPLORATION

MUCH exploration was done by the Company either intentionally or incidentally in connection with journeys undertaken in the course of trade. An interesting relic of one such journey is the sword mentioned below.

1226 *Sword*, believed to have been used on the Sir John Franklin expedition, 1845. Presented by the late Chief Factor Roderick MacFarlane to Mr. H. E. Burbidge, then stores commissioner for H.B.C., who placed it in this collection in January, 1922. Mrs. MacFarlane wrote on January 23rd, 1922, that her late husband was always very ambitious that the Company should form a museum, and stated that the sword was given to the late Chief Factor Roderick MacFarlane in 1857 by a very old Eskimo. The Eskimo said the sword had been given to him by an officer of the Sir John Franklin expedition. This expedition started from England in 1845 in an endeavour to find the northwest passage between Lancaster sound and Behring strait. All the members died in the attempt, and many expeditions were subsequently sent to search for remains and records, among them being that of Commander McClure on *H.M.S. Investigator* in 1850. The expedition of Mr. MacFarlane, then aged 24 and manager for the Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Good Hope, was made in 1857 on the Company's fur trade business, but resulted in the discovery of valuable and long sought documents of the McClure expedition. During Mr. MacFarlane's expedition, he discovered the Anderson river, which he named after the late Chief Factor James Anderson. It was not until 1902, 45 years later, that Mr. MacFarlane's work as an explorer was officially recognized by the admiralty award of the Imperial Arctic medal, originally struck in 1859. The sword is marked "*W IV*" and "*Moore, late Bickells Moore, 1 Old Bond Street, London.*"

"*W IV*" is also worked into the ornamentation of the hilt and refers to King William IV, 1830-1837.

1535 *Arctic Medals* (1855). Medals awarded by the British government for Arctic discoveries (1818-1855) to those who had assisted in various Arctic explorations. Dr. John Rae and Roderick MacFarlane were among H.B.C. officers to receive this decoration.

1600 Surplus specimen, given as a souvenir to Mr. James S. Braidwood, and presented by him to the historical exhibit October 3rd, 1922.

## DOMESTIC

MEN of the H.B.C. service were at first largely supplied with food and clothing by the annual ships from England, though at inland posts the principal items of food, aside from tea and sugar, were had from the wild game of the country. Pemmican, made from pounded buffalo or caribou flesh interlarded with fat, was a staple article of food. Later, fresh vegetables were obtained from the post gardens, and within the past century farms were developed by the Company in various districts to supply food for both men and livestock. Many years ago the Company operated a flour mill at Fort Garry and another at Fort Vermilion, Peace river, from which the material for breadstuffs was sent to the posts.

Delicacies of the fur post tables at feast times were moose nose, beaver tail, roast Canada goose, prairie chicken, partridge, roast seal, fresh salmon and trout.

Clothing brought out from England was also used to some extent by the men of the H.B.C. service, especially on the dress occasions and when travelling "outside" for a holiday; but by far the larger amount of clothing worn was "country made," which means made locally by men or women at the posts or by Indians from native materials.

A professional tailor was usually part of the personnel at every large post, and by him were fashioned coats, trousers, and vests, separately or in suits. *Capotes*, leggings, hoods, mackinaws and other articles, made from Hudson's Bay "point" blankets and duffel cloth, were also products of his needle and shears.

From the Indians and half-breeds, men of the service obtained their moccasins, sealskin boots, leggings, gauntlets and coats of deer and caribou skin with native ornamentation.

The clothing worn by H.B.C. men was usually matter-of-fact, unostentatious—adapted to warmth and wear as required by the calling and the climate. But on occasions when a governor like Sir George Simpson went voyaging among the far-spread tribes, inspecting posts and pushing ever outward the great circle of the Company's trading influence, or when some factor prepared to meet the chiefs of the Indian nations bringing furs, it was customary for H.B.C. officers to don bright coats of red or royal blue studded with shiny brass buttons, tall silk hats and l'Assomption sashes, the more to attract and hold the respect of these impressionable children of the Northland.

- 80 *Book of Common Prayer, Church of England, 1776.* Old copy used at H.B.C. posts.
- 105 *Leather coat, beaded.* Blood Indian.
- 768 *Fine buckskin coat, fringed and worked with silk, representing two years' work by a squaw near Jasper Park.*
- 1145 *Hunter's deerskin coat, fringed.*
- 1149 *Buckskin coat, beaded and fringed.*
- 880 *Pair deerskin gauntlets, worked on thumb and back of hands with nice pattern silk work.* Northern Cree.
- 1146 *Pair moose skin mitts, fringed and worked in silk on all sides of wrists.*
- 567 *Metis cap, ornamented with porcupine quill band and jet beads.* Probably Mackenzie area and worn by half-breed or white man.
- 1147 *Pair white leggings, fringed with blue ribbon and feather stitched with red.*
- 1148 *Pair fringed and beaded leggings.*
- 1158 *Pair beaded garters.*
- 1159 *Pair beaded garters.*
- 468 *Watch pocket, beadwork.* Blackfoot Indian.
- 907 *Mantel drape, heavily beaded on dark blue cloth, 4 feet long, 15 inches wide.* Cree Indian.
- 1674 *Candle mould—used generally in H.B.C. Service and especially in the Red river settlement.*
- 1908 *Cast iron cooking pot or cauldron, used for baking, boiling and stewing.*
- 929 *Caribou skin handkerchief satchel, beautifully embroidered in silk.* This came from the Yukon.

- 1603 *L'Assomption sash*, made in Quebec province by hand from wool. Used to tie around the waist outside of overcoat. Genuine sashes are now rare but imitation sashes have been for a long time and are now sold in the Company's posts and stores. This sash was made in 1898 and it is said that one inch was a day's work.
- 1906 *L'Assomption sash*.
- 937 *Brush and comb bag*, velvet beaded, made by a Cree Indian.
- 938a,b *Teapot, cosy and stand*, made by Northern Cree, probably for a white person.
- 939 *Cloth mat*, beaded, 14 inches in diameter. Cree Indian.
- 17 *Horn lantern*.
- 18 *Glass and tin lantern*.
- 19 *Hay rope twister*.
- 20 *Cooper's brace and bit*.
- 21 *Wooden tap and die*.
- 22 *Wooden spar cutter*.
- 25 *Meat broiler*.
- 26 *Native-made knife*.
- 63 *Native-made snow shovel*.
- 23 *Spit*, from Moose Factory, used for cooking large joints of meat in front of an open fire. A spit of almost identical design was used at Eton College, England, for over 200 years and has only recently been abandoned.
- 1901 *Two shoe buckles*, worn by Lord Selkirk. Loaned by W. Scott.

## MARRIAGE

WHEN a church mission was within reach of the post, marriages were solemnized according to the ritual, but, when no clergyman could be found to officiate, it was an established custom to take the depositions of the contracting parties properly witnessed and signed and sealed by the Company's factor or other officer.

- 79a *Marriage contract* between George Rose, native Indian of Albany district, and Sally, daughter of Commutchaupai (a widow who had survived her two former husbands, Eshcopcaupe and Copaum).—Dated at Rupert's House, February 26, 1842.
- 79c *Marriage contract* between Andrew Moar and Catherine Best, widow of the late William Thomas. Dated at Rupert's House, September 18, 1835.

## V.—FORTS, POSTS AND STORES

FOR many years after the establishment of the Hudson's Bay Company, its forts and posts were few in number and confined almost exclusively to the shores of James and Hudson Bays. The Indians were willing to travel long distances to barter furs.

But when the North-West Company became a strong rival of the chartered Company and penetrated the far interior, carrying their trade goods to the Indians instead of drawing the Indians to them, the Company's servants countered this competition by erecting new forts and posts "inland."

In 1856 there were 154 posts, in 1872 there were 144 posts, and to-day the Company maintains over 200 fur trade posts, a greater number than at any time in its history. These posts are scattered from the coast of Labrador to the Pacific and from the Arctic sea as far south as latitude 47.8. Among the posts in operation to-day that have a place in history are the following:

*Moose Factory*

*York Factory*

*Norway House*

*Fort Rae*

*Fort Chipewyan*

*Fort Simpson*

*Fort Churchill*

Lower Fort Garry (The Stone Fort), on the Red River eighteen miles north of Winnipeg, is maintained and has been kept in repair by the Company at considerable expense, as it is the finest specimen of a stone fort extant among H.B.C. posts. Lower Fort Garry was erected in 1831, and later became an important seat of council for the Company's officers in the fur trade.

For some years the fort has been leased to the Motor



Country Club of Winnipeg, who have exercised admirable care in preserving the historic establishment. On application to the manager of the Hudson's Bay Company retail store at Winnipeg, visitors may obtain permits to visit the fort during the day.

Forts and posts of the Company which contributed to the history of Canada but no longer exist were:

*Fort Prince of Wales*

*Fort Edmonton*

*Fort Garry*

*Fort Vancouver*

*Fort Langley*

*Fort Victoria*

*Fort Douglas*

As the march of settlement in Canada pushed back the boundaries of the fur preserves, Hudson's Bay Company's forts and posts became general stores catering to the multifarious wants of the newer population. When villages and towns grew to cities in Western Canada, many of these H.B.C. country stores and general stores became department stores, some of large dimensions, employing hundreds of people. The faculty for adjusting itself to environment is exhibited on the largest scale by the continual modifications made by the Hudson's Bay Company to meet the constant changes so largely of its own creation.

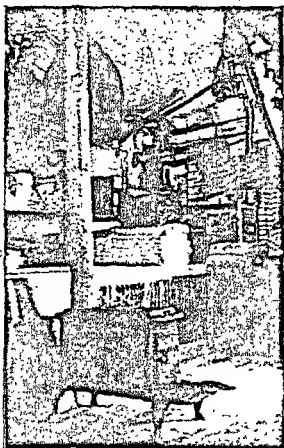
Naturally these changes are most marked in the provinces of most recent development. In Ontario the Company has some thirty trading posts but no general stores.

In Manitoba, Winnipeg forms the most striking example of the direct connection between H.B.C. posts and stores. Here originally, at or near the junction of the Red and the Assiniboine, were located Forts Rouge, Gibraltar, Douglas and Garry. It was here that the Company's first large department store was erected in 1881, when the town began to take on the dimensions of a city. The original establishment was

added to in 1900. A fine new store, costing upwards of six million dollars, is in course of erection at the corner of Portage Avenue and Vaughan Street, on the new Memorial Boulevard. This store is expected to be ready for occupation by October, 1926.

In Saskatchewan, the Company has had many trading posts from early times, and now has two department stores—at Yorkton and Saskatoon. A site was purchased in Regina in 1925.

In Alberta, where the Company's trading posts still cluster thickly in the North, a general store was first opened at Calgary in 1876. On the advent of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1884, a new and large store was erected at Calgary. In 1891 and again in 1895, changes were made to larger quarters, and in 1913 the Company opened at Calgary one of its largest department stores, built of steel, concrete and terra cotta. Land for extension was purchased in 1925.



*Interior of typical H.B.C.  
post store, 1921*

Meanwhile, northward on the Saskatchewan, the city of Edmonton had been growing up on the site of old Fort Edmonton. The Company erected a small store there in 1891. In 1894 a larger store was erected, and again in 1904 a new building was started. The coming of three railways to Edmonton between 1906 and 1913 marked another step in advance, when the Company enlarged its department store

there to its present dimensions and in 1925 purchased adjoining property to permit of further extension.

At Lethbridge, Alberta, a department store was erected by the Company in 1886 and continues in operation.

In British Columbia also are found notable instances of early trading posts of the Hudson's Bay Company developing into important cities. At Victoria first, and then at Vancouver, large settlements gathered around the old H.B.C. forts which had been capitals for the fur trade of British Columbia. The first H.B.C. fort at Victoria was erected in 1843 on Camosun harbour by Chief Factor James Douglas. The first H.B.C. store at Victoria was built in 1859. The present establishment was opened September 19th, 1921, being one of the large department stores operated by the Company in Canada.

Shortly after the new town of Vancouver had been laid waste by fire in 1886, the Company established its first general store on Cordova street. In 1890 the operations of the Company were extended and a branch store was established. In 1893, 1897, 1898, 1899, as a result of the gold rush to the Klondyke, it was repeatedly found necessary to enlarge the store with new buildings and additions. In 1912, the building of a large new portion of the store was commenced. It was further rebuilt and greatly enlarged in 1925 and 1926.

In British Columbia the Company also established department stores at Kamloops, Vernon, and Nelson, the first two of which grew from fur trade posts. Kamloops was the first point in British Columbia at which the Company was established, as in 1821 the Company took over the post which had been founded by the North-West Company in 1812.

The story of the forts, posts, and stores of the Hudson's Bay Company exhibits the change from old methods to new, and demonstrates that continual adjustment to altered conditions is the test and sign of healthy and vigorous life.

- 862 *Building the First Fort.* On September 29th, 1668, Sieur des Groseilliers and crew of forty-two of the *Nonsuch* landed at the mouth of a river which they called Rupert's river. Their goal had been reached, and, to protect themselves from the coming winter and if necessary from unknown hostile Indians, they commenced to build the first fort, which they named Fort Charles. Whilst they were building the fort, a small band of Indians arrived and viewed with astonishment the white settlers. After a great deal of parleying and distribution of gifts, the Indians promised to return with the season's hunt of furs. Thus was founded the first fort of the "Great Company."
- 1359 *Photograph.* H.B.C. department store, Victoria, B.C., on opening day, September 19th, 1921. The three flags are the Union Jack, the H.B.C. red ensign, and the H.B.C. house flag. The house flag is white with the Company's coat-of-arms in the centre in gold.
- 1620 *Fort Garry interior.* A lithograph made about 1884 representing the buildings within the walls of Fort Garry as they were about 1864 and a group of people with Red River cart, toboggan and dogs.
- 413 *Key* formerly used at Fort Simpson, Mackenzie river.
- 484 *Key* found at Cumberland House.
- 1450 *Stencils* of names of former H.B.C. posts and steamboats.
- 1412 *Samples of keys* for steel locks.
- 1425 *Door hinge*, such as was manufactured and used at the Company's posts.
- 1426 *Door hasp* made at post.
- 1443-4 *Knives* made at a post from an old file.
- 1407-8-9 *Stock locks* imported from England for use at H.B.C. posts.
- 1420 *Lock* imported by H.B.C. for use on dwelling houses.
- 1422 *Door catch* as made at posts.
- 1585 *Lock and key*, used by Lord Strathcona (Donald Smith), at former H.B.C. post, St. Augustine, Labrador. Presented by W. E. Fowles.
- 1678 *Oak wood lock cover* with iron ornament from Lower Fort Garry.
- 1336 *Pieces of oak* from the ruins of Fort Prince of Wales, Hudson Bay. This fort was first built of wood in 1718 and, after destruction by fire, was rebuilt massively of stone in 1734. It was located at the mouth of the Churchill river, west coast of Hudson Bay, where the ruins may still be seen.
- 1902 *Shovel* used by Charles Vincent Sale, Governor of the Company, in commencing excavations on the new store site on Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, September 2nd, 1925.

- 1903 *Earth, in miniature case*, from first excavation on site of the Hudson's Bay Company's Greater Winnipeg Store, September, 1925.
- 1363 *Fort Prince of Wales, 1784*. Oil painting by A. H. Hider, Toronto, from a steel engraving by Samuel Hearne, one of the H.B.C. early explorers. This picture was used in connection with the Company's 1922 calendar.
- 1488-92 *Water-colour paintings*, about 1870, by Andrew Lockhart, loaned by H. M. S. Cotter, of Cumberland House: *Abitibi, Temiscamingue (morning and evening), Moose Factory and New Post*.
- 1546-49 *Four water colours* painted under the direction of Mr. C. H. French from data as far back as he could obtain. The pictures represent the following oldtime posts of the Company in British Columbia: *Babine, McLeod's Lake, Fort Fraser and Fort St. James*.
- 1476 *Top of jackstaff*, formerly over the north gate of Fort Garry. The jackstaff was blown down in 1872. Presented by Lt.-Col. H. Swinford, Vancouver.
- 1552 *Bell dated 1839*. Believed to have been used originally at Fort Garry. More recently used in retail store, but, owing to complaints about its noise, its use was discontinued about 1906, toward the end of Commissioner C. C. Chipman's regime.
- 1910 *Nozzle of fire hose* from Old Fort Garry. Presented by J. Parkinson.

*Numerous pictures and photographs of H.B.C. forts, posts and stores are on display in a special stand.*

## VI.—FIGHTS AND WARS

THE fur trade of the North was considered such a prize that from the earliest times there were rival companies and free traders contending with the men of the Hudson's Bay Company for control of the trapping grounds. Frequent fights took place with the Nor'westers, and there was warfare with the French on Hudson Bay, since, during a long period in the Company's history, France and Great Britain were at swords' points.

In the long record of the minor struggles which took place between the old-time fur traders deep in the vast wilderness

of Canada may be found ample material for picturesque tales, and much evidence of devotion to duty and bravery on the part of the frontiersmen who participated in this phase of the country's history.

The rights of France in the fur country were not clearly defined, because the H.B.C. charter excluded from the control of the Company territory occupied "by the subjects of any other Christian prince or state." French kings had given various charters or licenses to fur traders from 1627 onwards, but they were vague in meaning, and so it seemed to be the rule among those who sought pelts in Canada that "he shall take who has the power and he shall keep who can."

In 1686 the French marched overland from the St. Lawrence to James Bay and captured Moose Factory from the Hudson's Bay Company. They made other captures of posts in the district and returned to Montreal with 50,000 beaver skins as a trophy. Even during the peace times between 1682 and 1688, the French captured from the Company in the region of Hudson Bay seven ships with their cargoes and six forts and factories, and, in his declaration of war against France, the English king mentioned these attacks upon his subjects and the loss of one hundred thousand pounds they had sustained.

But the French raids on H.B.C. forts went on. Fort Nelson on the west coast of the bay was captured by Iberville in 1693, and renamed Fort Bourbon. In 1696 the fort was recaptured by the English, whereupon four French ships were sent for a counter attack upon the post. A fierce sea fight took place between the French and four H.B.C. supply ships which were met in the straits. Fort Nelson again changed hands.

Fort Albany was unsuccessfully attacked by the French in 1704. By the Treaty of Utrecht, signed in 1713, Hudson Bay was ceded to England and the French evacuated the forts of the Company which they had occupied on the bay.

Again, in 1782, the French attacked the Company on Hudson Bay, taking Fort Prince of Wales and York Factory. France agreed to compensate the Company for its loss, but the debt was never paid. The victory of Wolfe at Quebec and the capture of Montreal by Amherst put an end to the dream of French empire in America, and the Company's position in Hudson Bay was not thenceforth subjected to warlike attacks and destruction of posts.

After the beginning of the nineteenth century the Hudson's Bay Company maintained peace throughout its vast territory without the employment of armed force, but the conditions changed when colonization was attempted at Red River. The North-West Company, in 1816, planned to attack the Selkirk settlers with a band of armed half-breeds from many quarters. Governor Semple, who was inspecting Hudson's Bay Company's forts in the west and then stopping at Fort Garry, sallied forth with a score of men to parley with the half-breeds. They had no ammunition and a fight was started. Semple and most of his followers were killed.

The last fighting of considerable consequence occurred in the Northwest when a rebellion of half-breeds under Louis Riel broke out in 1869, just as the territory of the Hudson's Bay Company was being ceded to Canada. Riel captured Fort Garry and set up a provisional government in Rupert's Land. A relief expedition commanded by Colonel Wolseley was sent to the west and the rebellion was put down.

Many of the Company's employees fought in the South African war. During the recent European war, 513 of the Company's employees fought, and the Company itself took

an extensive part in securing and transporting supplies, especially for the French government.

- 478 *Gun found in Saskatchewan river, 1888. Supposed to have belonged to Tom Hourrie, who swam the river amid ice floes during the North West Rebellion, to carry a message for General Middleton. A Sharp's breech-loader converted to a muzzle loader owing to scarcity of cartridges. Originally nickel-plated. There is a trap or patch box in the butt.*
- 1716 *Barrel of Sharp's Patent 1849 breech loading rifle.*
- 904a,d *Collection of arrow and spearheads.*
- 909 *Shell fired in Battleford in 1885, failed to explode.*
- 910 *Shell fired in Battleford in 1885, point blown off.*
- 911 *Portion of shell from Batoche battlefield, 1885.*
- 912 *Portion of shell from Cut Knife battlefield, 1885.*
- 1150 *Pair iron handcuffs.*
- 1151 *Leg irons.*
- 1152 *Stirrup, dug up at wharf, York Factory, Hayes river. Presented by the late A. W. Patterson.*
- 1153 *Sword belonging to H.B.C. officer. Presented by the late A. W. Patterson.*
- 1154 *Indian-made scalping knife. Used by the Chipewyans in their expeditions against the Dog Ribs and Slaveys. Date, about 1830.*
- 1155 *Key of old gunpowder magazine at York Factory.*
- 1156 *Axe, made by Wolfe in 18th century. Presented by the late A.W. Patterson.*
- 1454 *Revolving pistol in use at Babine post, B.C., between 1875 and 1895.*
- 1455a *One revolving pistol, brought to Fort Vancouver (Washington) in 1835, by Mr. Wayne, of the H.B.C., and later used by him while building stockade and bastions at Colville Town, now Nanaimo, B.C. From C. H. French, Vancouver.*
- 1364 *List of H.B.C. men who enlisted and served in the Great War, 1914-1918.*
- 1700-05 *Shells and Fuses. Examples of shells and fuses used in the Great War, 1914-1918. Presented by Mr. Edward FitzGerald, C.B.E. The Shell Committee at the beginning of the war arranged for the manufacture of munitions in Canada. This work was taken over by the Imperial Munitions Board, under whose supervision enormous quantities of shells, explosives and, later, aeroplanes, were made and shipped to Europe.*
- 1809 *German 9.2 Howitzer shell (Great War).*
- 482 *Unfired shrapnel shell fuse (South Africa).*
- 1731 *Pepper box revolver. Allen & Thurber, Worcester, 1827.*
- 1740 *Pepper box revolver, muzzle loading, 1840.*



## VII.—LAND AND SETTLEMENT

FOR nearly two centuries after its charter was granted, the Hudson's Bay Company widely exercised its powers to trade for furs, but was little concerned with settlement.

Prior to the deed of surrender, the Company's principal participation in enterprises of settlement had been at Red river and on Vancouver island.

In 1811 the Company granted to Lord Selkirk 116,000 square miles of its lands centring about Fort Garry, a large part of the district then called Assiniboia. In return for this assistance to his colonization scheme, the Scottish earl undertook to find two hundred servants every year for ten years to enter the Company's service.

Three ships brought the first group of Selkirk's Scottish and Irish immigrants to York Factory on Hudson Bay, and they proceeded to Red river, up the Nelson river and Lake Winnipeg. They arrived in August, 1812. The governor of the new colony allotted to each head of a family one hundred acres of land and an Indian pony. The men were given muskets, bayonets and ammunition, and were told to resist by force any one who might attack them. The colonists had come out to farm, but few agricultural implements were available. During their first winter, many of the settlers found it necessary to make their way south to Fort Pembina.

It was not long until the men of the North-West Company commenced a campaign of aggression against the colony, for they insisted that colonization would be disastrous to the fur trade. Farm houses were pillaged, the settlers were fired on, horses were stolen and cattle driven away. At last the colonists decided to migrate, and removed in a body to a trading

post on Jack river belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company. After their departure, the buildings in the settlement were destroyed, excepting Fort Douglas.

In 1816 a new brigade of immigrants arrived at Red river from Scotland and the effort at colonization was renewed. But the troubles of the settlement continued. Because of food scarcity, the people were compelled to migrate again to Fort Pembina during the winter of 1817. Then for two years in succession the plague of grasshoppers destroyed their crops. Again the colonists were forced to leave their homes, and would have starved but for the care and bounty of the Hudson's Bay Company. It was not until 1822 that the Selkirk settlement began to flourish, but the news of its prosperity never reached the founder. Selkirk, through the powerful influence of the North-West Company at Montreal, had been arrested for capturing Fort William. In the subsequent trial, heavy damages had been obtained against the earl, who returned to England a disheartened man, believing that the death knell of his colony had been sounded. His health failed, and he died in April, 1820.

For a while Selkirk's family tried to carry on his work, but in 1834 the land occupied by the Red River colony was retransferred to the Hudson's Bay Company.

On the west coast, the Company in 1849 initiated colonization work on Vancouver island, where settlement was beginning to take place and where the Company's operations were taking on a varied character, such as farming, coal mining, manufacturing and exporting, the making of surveys and road building.

Vancouver island was granted to the Hudson's Bay Company by H. M. Queen Victoria in 1849, but a few years later the settlers decided that the country should be governed

by the people and not by a Company, however beneficent its rule. In 1859, therefore, the island was given back to the crown.

Then, in 1869, came the surrender of certain of the Company's rights under the charter and the formal transfer of the great area called Rupert's Land to the newly confederated government of Canada, marking a new era in the history of the Company and of the West.

Under the deed of surrender, some 7,000,000 acres of lands were reserved by the Hudson's Bay Company in the "Fertile Belt" of Western Canada. It was a specific condition of the transfer that these lands were not to be comprised in one large block, but that, as rapidly as the west came under the Dominion survey and township lines were plotted, certain sections or portions of sections should be reserved for the Company in every township between Lake Winnipeg, Lake-of-the-Woods, their connecting waters, and the Rocky Mountains, and between the North Saskatchewan river and the international boundary. This is the so-called "Fertile Belt."

Due to this arrangement, the lands which the Hudson's Bay Company then began to dispose of to settlers were scattered over an immense territory without there being sufficient acreage at any one location where settlement on a large scale might have been promoted.

The sale and settlement of the extensive acreage of land reserved by the Company in 1870 has fairly kept pace with the extension of railways, the coming of immigrants, and the general growth of the country. The rate of sale of H.B.C. lands has been as great, in proportion, as that of other farm lands in Western Canada.

About four million acres of H.B.C. lands have been sold in the fifty-six years since the deed of surrender, at prices varying from an average minimum of \$4 per acre to an average maximum of \$22.50 per acre. It is estimated that upwards of seventy-five thousand people are included in the families which own or are settled on these farms. Nearly three million acres of H.B.C. lands remain unsold and are offered to the public at attractive prices and terms.

Optimistic of the future of the Dominion, fully conversant with the resources and needs of the West and pursuing the policy it adopted in the time of Lord Selkirk of affording practical aid at all times to prospective settlers, the Hudson's Bay Company, in conjunction with the Cunard Steamship Company, has inaugurated a land settlement scheme, the purpose of which is to place desirable British and European agriculturists on farm lands on terms and under such arrangements as will prove attractive to the settlers and insure to the Dominion a large population of the right kind of people.

In this connection a new company has been formed designated "Hudson's Bay Company Overseas Settlement, Limited," with headquarters at Trafalgar Buildings, corner of Northumberland Avenue, London, England, and its Canadian head office at 93 Main Street, Winnipeg. This company will assist in selecting and arranging transport to Canada of farm-helpers of all nationalities who will be placed with those farmers who are prepared to afford employment on their farms until the new settlers acquire the necessary experience and become familiar with the agricultural conditions of Canada and are able to take up land on their own account.

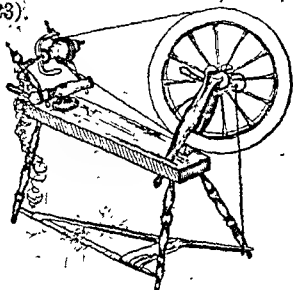
1676 Oil painting, "Landing of the Selkirk Settlers Red River, 1812," painted by Mr. J. E. Schafflein (1923).

1688 *Spinning wheel*—made in Kildonan about 1835 by Hugh Matheson for Mrs. Robert McBeth, who is said to have been the first white woman born in the Red River Settlement.

The spinning wheel was used for twisting and winding the yarn quickly. It was operated by foot, like a sewing machine.

1341 *Plan of Red River Settlement*, entitled, "Plan—Red River Colony

copied from that in the possession of the Honourable Hudson's Bay Company, surveyed during 1836-7-8. Scale, 50 chains an inch. William Wager, Dep. Surveyor." The colony or settlement was planned along both banks of the Red river and Assiniboine river



for certain distances. The sub-divisions are of the old French-Canadian style, as may be seen on the St. Lawrence in Québec province today. They had narrow frontage on the river from which they extended back for considerable distances. Leases of one thousand years were granted. A sample lease is shown as item No. 1337.

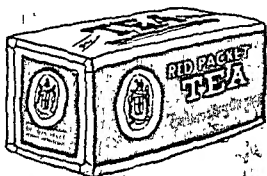
- 1337 *Red River Settlement lease*, dated 1855. A cancelled one thousand year lease of the "Governor and Company of Adventurers of England Trading into Hudson's Bay," for 98 acres of land in the Red River Settlement. Annual rental was one pepper corn. Reference to the plan of Red River Colony (item No. 1341) will show how this settlement was divided.
- 1584 *Deed of Surrender*, 1869. Printed copy of English order-in-council containing deed of surrender by which the Hudson's Bay Company in 1869 surrendered to Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, various rights of government and property, receiving £300,000 in money, and retaining one-twentieth of the lands in the "Fertile Belt," its posts and 50,000 acres of land surrounding its posts.
- 1313 *Relief map of the "Fertile Belt" of Western Canada*, as referred to in the deed of surrender, 1869.
- 1344 Copy of first patent for land issued by the Dominion of Canada to the H.B.C., 5th June, 1873, being the reserve at Fort Garry, now part of the city of Winnipeg, comprising approximately 450 acres in the apex between the Red and Assiniboine rivers.
- 1343 *Township Plan*. A typical township plan as adopted by the government of the Dominion of Canada for surveying townships in the "Fertile Belt." An ordinary township consists of 36 square miles divided into 36 sections of one square mile or 640 acres each. The H.B.C. had a right to one-twentieth of each township, and it was therefore arranged that the Company should be given the south  $\frac{1}{2}$  and the N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 26 and the whole of section 8 in every four townships and the whole of both sections 8 and 26 in each fifth township.
- 1329 *Surveyor's original field notes of H.B.C. lands sections, 1871-73*.
- 1217 *Winnipeg*. Plan of the town of Selkirk, Manitoba. Surveyed by A. H. Vaughan, deputy surveyor, 1872. This shows the area in the present city of Winnipeg, bounded roughly by the Assiniboine river, Colony street, Ellice avenue and Red river, and shows the site of old Fort Garry.

- 1327** *Diagram.* "Farm Land Sales by Hudson's Bay Co., 1880-1921."
- 1322** *Toll collecting box*, used at old bridge over the Red river connecting Winnipeg and St. Boniface.
- 1323** Same as 1322, of a smaller size.
- 1323a** *Two-cent aluminium tokens*, for foot passengers' tolls, dated 1898.
- 1500** *Resolution of Legislative Assembly of Manitoba*, Winnipeg, Manitoba, April 13th, 1885, signed C. A. Sadleir, Jr., clerk of the Legislative Assembly. The resolution refers to the troubles in Alberta and Saskatchewan, and affirms "that there is not the slightest disturbance in any part of Manitoba." The last paragraph reads: "Therefore all who contemplate coming to Manitoba this Spring can do so in the utmost security."
- Rebellion in the North-West was retarding immigration into Manitoba, and this resolution was printed on a poster 18 inches by 24 inches, and the poster widely distributed. A memorandum, signed by the Roman Catholic Archbishop of St. Boniface, the Church of England Bishop of Rupert's Land, J. Norquay (Premier of Manitoba), and C. J. Brydges (President, Board of Agriculture of Manitoba), was included on the poster.
- 1365** *Diploma from Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition in 1895 to H.B.C.* for the best flour made from Red Fyfe wheat. Signed, Andrew Strang, President. F. W. Heubach, Secretary.
- 1** *Order-in-Council* (Dominion of Canada government) appointing Wm. Joseph Christie to: (1) Select reserves for Cree-Salteaux Indians; (2) Pay annuities and distribute clothing and other presents to the Indians.
- The above action taken in connection with treaty concluded at Qu'Appelle in Sept., 1874. Presented by Mr. J. G. M. Christie.
- 1540** *Bituminous coal* from Crowsnest Pass, Alberta.
- 1541** *Bituminous coal* (powdered) from Crowsnest Pass.
- 1542** *Lignite* from Willowbunch, Saskatchewan.
- 1543** *Sodium Sulphate* from Fusilier district, Saskatchewan.

*Note*—Underlying some of the Company's lands are valuable mineral deposits, and no doubt more will be discovered. When selling lands for farming purposes, the Company reserves mineral rights, separate leases being issued for the prospecting or extraction of minerals, so that the development of mineral resources is encouraged. The principal minerals included in the Company's rights are coal, oil, gas and Glauber's salts (sodium sulphate) of which the above are samples.

# H.B.C. Teas and Coffees

HIGHEST QUALITY  
AT MINIMUM PRICES

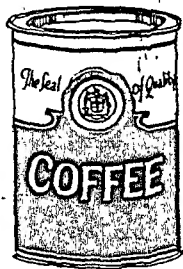


Finer Teas than these are  
not produced West of the  
China Seas.

Red Label Tea, per lb. package.....75c

Blue Label Tea, per lb. package.....85c

Better Coffee than the fragrant  
H.B.C. "Seal of Quality" brand  
cannot be obtained anywhere.



H.B.C. "Seal of Quality" Coffee, freshly  
roasted and packed, per lb. tin.....65c

*At all the Company's Stores, Posts and Branches.*

## Hudson's Bay Company.

INCORPORATED 27<sup>th</sup> MAY 1670.



INCORPORATED 2<sup>nd</sup> MAY 1870.

## THE LONG AGO

—in the days of  
our youth

LONDON 29 April 1684

Shipped in good condition in and upon  
the good Ship called THE HAPPY  
RETURNE whereof is Master Wm.  
Bond and the good Pinck called the  
LUCEY whereof is Master John Out-  
law for the account of the Governor and  
Adventurers of England trading into  
Hudsons Bay and goes consigned to John  
Abraham of Port Nelson, in Hudsons  
Bay governour there under the Com-  
panies and Factory Marke as in ye  
margent the invoice of which with the  
Nos. and contents is as follows

187 hogs qts 88 Roles Tobacco each 10 lbs.

c. q. lbs. c. q. lbs.

wt. 8. 1. 13 tare 0. 3. 17

188 hogs qts 96 Roles Tobacco each 8 lbs.

c. q. lbs. c. q. lbs.

wt. 8. 3. 22 tare 1. 0. 7.

(Extract from Invoice Book in  
H.B.C. Archives)

## AND NOW

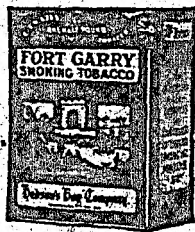
—in our Prime

We offer to you the results of  
those two and a half centuries  
of experience. It has taught us  
how to cater to the palate of  
the connoisseur—how to select  
the choicest leaf—to mature  
it for years in the wood—to  
preserve and enhance its rare  
aroma and with scrupulous  
care to blend the smoking  
tobaccos that come to you  
today packed in the familiar  
styles illustrated.

Profit by our knowledge  
Ask your Tobacconist for



## Hudson's Bay Company's TOBACCOS



*Tobaccos of Tradition*